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The Art of Reading*

By Emile Faguet, summarized by Theodore W. Koch, librarian,
Northwestern University

"We read very little," said Voltaire, "and among those who wish to instruct themselves the majority read very badly." To know what to read is an art and there is a real art of reading.

It was this that Sainte-Beuve had in mind when he said that the critic is a man who knows how to read and who teaches others how to read. The critic does not know how to read for his pleasure, and does not teach others how to read for their pleasure. He teaches the reader how to read critically. To read critically is not a pleasure. In reading there should be no precipitation, which is but a form of laziness. "To read with the fingers,"—a phrase from a previous century,—meant to turn over the pages in a manner where the fingers did more work than the eyes. Men like M. Bayle, the author of the "Dictionnaire," read much with the fingers. That is to say, they ran thru more volumes than they read and they also fell on the essential and curious passages of the book. This is a method of reading, characteristic of collectors of ideas or of facts. It takes away all the pleasure of reading and substitutes that of the chase. One who wishes to be a reader and not a hunter will follow the opposite method.

We should read in a very attentive manner and be very distrustful of first impressions. Of course, there are books which can not be read slowly, but they are those which do not have to be read at all. This is the first benefit of slow

reading. It makes a distinction at the very outset between the books to read and the books which are only made not to be read. To read slowly is the first principle and one which applies to all reading. It is the very art of reading in its essence.

It is quite evident that except for the general precept of reading intelligently, the art of reading cannot be the same for the different kinds of literature, for there are books of ideas, books of imagination, dramatic and lyric poems, and so forth. In reading books of ideas the essential art is one of comparison, the continual bringing together of different ideas. In reading a philosopher or a moralist, he is transformed before our very eyes. We see that such a writer is quite different from what he appeared to be upon first acquaintance. The sentences change themselves in the reading as a ray of light thru a prism. Is this a benefit or an evil? And, then, where is the truth? In the first impression, or in the second, or in the third? Probably our best authors are inexhaustible because of the truths which they contain or the things which we read into them. The essential thing is that they make us think. The pleasure that one finds in reading a philosopher is the pleasure of thinking.

Are dramatic poets to be read? Yes, as much as to be heard. If it is true, as used to be said, that a good comedy can only be judged across the foot-lights, it is no less true that there is a judgment to be passed upon it which can only be arrived at by reading. It is from the movement of the piece that one judges

*Read at the meeting of the Illinois library association, Springfield, Ill., Oct., 1920.

the play at the theatre, but in reading we estimate it from its character of holding together. It is by reading a play that one gets away from the prestige of the theatrical troupe; it is in reading that one is no longer the dupe of the actors, of the energy of their declamation and of the possession which they exercise over us. Above all it is in reading that one can re-read and it is only in re-reading that one can judge well, not only of the style but of the composition, of the disposition of the parts and of the full setting,—that is, of the total impression which the author has wished to produce upon us, and of the question as to whether he has produced it or not, or only done so partially. It is in reading that one can no longer take the false money for the real, the high sounding phrase, more or less true, for a real idea or sentiment. Faguet divides plays into four classes: those which are better for reading than for presentation on the stage, those which are as good in the study as at the theatre, those which are not so good in print as when heard, and those which are not even worth the trouble of printing. And it is the first class which are superior to the talent of the actors and which consequently the actors spoil and degrade. All the classical chefs-d'oeuvre are of this class and the second ones are of average excellence or a little bit above the average. It is a compliment to a play to say that it can be read. The third class are the many which are below the talent of the actors and which the actors elevate in playing. The fourth class are those which the actors make, those of which the true authors are the comedians who play them and these are the most numerous of all.

The author who writes a play for a star does not write at all for the reader, but gives himself up to not being read and truth condemns his piece as a work of art.

To be able to read a play one must have gone quite frequently to the theatre, for it is necessary in reading a play to see it with the eyes of imagination in somewhat the same manner as one would

see it at the theatre. The real dramatic author writes his play, visualizing it at the same time, seeing in advance the actors come and go, grouping themselves here and there, one group speaking to another in this or that attitude. So the readers must see as if it were being played, the piece which he reads and also literally hear the lines. If one has been frequently enough to the theatre, one becomes quickly accustomed to read in this manner and so becomes unable to read otherwise. Nothing moreover is more agreeable, and this play from the easy chair has no other inconvenience than weakening in us the desire to see plays at an overheated, badly ventilated and uncomfortable theatre.

One of the things which distinguishes a good play from a bad one, a living play from one without life, is that one can see the first and one cannot see the second. In the same manner that a good dramatist has written his piece while visualizing it, likewise a good reader reads a play while staging it before his eyes.

A critic is a friend who talks with you about your reading, reads the same books or has read the same ones. He makes you reflect when he reawakens in you your sensations and impressions. The critic in directing you to new readings opens to you new countries, of which you had only thought vaguely or had never thought at all, but which can be of great beauty or captivating strangeness. He is sometimes a little too much inclined to admiration, and sometimes his opinions are too conservative or too reactionary, too much attracted towards the novelties of the day. He is a man who makes you read the author from a certain point of view and in a certain attitude which he gives you. Therefore, one must be careful, for it is your duty as a reader to have personal impressions; to be moved by Shakespeare personally and not by Shakespeare according to someone else's impressions. The point of view which the critic gives me is his, so that, in a way, to read the critic before reading the author is to hinder me from understanding the author. It is to force one to hear only by an ear which has been

prepared by another for a certain impression. Indeed, a certain inertia, or the law of least effort, satisfies one with knowing what the most authoritative critics think of authors without ever reading the authors themselves.

One must distinguish between the literary historian and the critics properly so called. The literary historian must be as impersonal as he can be. He does not have to say what impressions certain authors have made upon him; he has only to say what impressions these authors made upon his contemporaries. He must indicate the general spirit of the times according to all he knows of history. The critic, on the other hand, begins where the literary historian leaves off, or rather he is on another geometrical plane. What we ask of him is his thought on the author or on the work. We do not ask him to give a map of the country, but impressions of travel. We ask what effect a certain author has made upon him.

Tho there is a difference between the function of the critic and the literary historian they must be necessarily related. Until recently the literary historian too frequently thought his was the mission of the critic and vice versa. Nisard's "History of French literature," for ex-

ample, is entirely a work of criticism, and as a history of literature counts for nothing. It is eminently fitting to read the literary historian before reading any particular author, but the critic should never be read before reading the author whom he criticizes. The historian of literature will give you useful information on the world in which the author lived, on the men about whom he speaks and will introduce you into the author's world. With the critic it is different. If you read him before the author with whom you desire to become acquainted he will do more harm than good. You will not be able, or will be able only with difficulty to get rid of the point of view of the critic, and to receive a direct impression. The critic will be like a screen between the author and you. You would like to know what effect Montaigne would produce upon you and you do not know whether the effect which you get in reading Montaigne comes to you from Montaigne or from Nisard.

Faguet concludes that never to read the critic of an author before reading the author himself, never to re-read an author until you have read one or several critics of that author, is a good rule for both reading and re-reading.

After the War, What?*

Helen A. Bagley librarian, Oak Park, Ill., Public Library

For two years, since the guns of the great war were silenced, the world has been asking itself that question, and so far there has been no satisfactory answer. Nor shall I attempt to give one, being neither a prophet nor a political economist. Prophets today are plentiful; so many that it becomes increasingly difficult to discern which have the divine fire and which have not; especially since their prophecies differ so amazingly. They tell us that we are drifting rapidly toward revolution—or toward a complete reactionary period: toward a more liberal

government—or toward czarism. There seems to be no middle course.

The middle class of the American people, who form the large bulk of the librarian's "public," are not too greatly concerned about an answer to this question. Beyond a growing irritation with the increased cost of living, they are not interested in economic questions. As for political differences, these have been taken out of their hands temporarily, and since we cannot elect both presidential candidates, why worry? The really vital thing is how to get the grocers to realize that food prices are lowered: the really interesting question is how the sport of

*President's address, Illinois Library Association, Springfield, October 12.

baseball will be affected by the White Sox scandal.

Yet there is undoubtedly an undercurrent setting our way more and more strongly from restless, war-weary Europe, where before August, 1914, forces of unrest were moving national affairs to great changes. Principles that the European world had thought established forever were being questioned: such as the rights of individuals to own and dispose of the necessities of life: the relative claims of nations and of individuals to power: the organization of industry: and the war has intensified and complicated matters enormously, since it has added misery and starvation and sorrows untold to the stimuli which were already making toward the upheaval of society.

Concerning the nature and direction of probable change, there are as usual two sets of theories, the conservative and the radical. The conservative, while approving in general of the present conditions of affairs, is prepared to make some alterations in conscious or unconscious response to the demand of the world spirit; the radical, while holding theories the carrying out of which would entail a complete reversal of the constitution of society, is willing (at times) to accept compromises which will embody part of them. Witness the program of the British Labor party, which thinks that by temporary measures it is assisting at the slow demise of capitalism.

This situation is more intense in Europe than it is in this country, for we have come out from the world war rich and strong, and are feeling in a comparatively small degree the agitation which is sweeping over the old world. The average American is unwilling to give the time to inquire about the real philosophy underlying the program on either side, and he is therefore open to whatever reactions the clever propagandist of both sides can produce in him, and the cleverness of the modern propagandist is something marvelous. During the war there was so much written and discussed about the psychology of influencing men's minds that the methods of the propagandist are open to secrets,

and the people know what they are about, and why. Distrust of the public press is widespread but the people are still willing to listen to the wise men of our race, and they are looking for leadership. The conviction is growing that we must eventually face the issues that are confronting Europe, perhaps not in this generation, but some day not very far off. There are many who do wish to think for themselves: a growing minority, which will ultimately mold public opinion and make the decisions that will affect the outcome. They are coming to us—to the libraries, and to every agency which distributes books—in increasingly large numbers and they are asking for books which will give them, in these days of hesitation and doubt, a working basis for future action.

We know, of course, that there is a reason for our present feeling of depression and our lack of confidence in the future, and we believe that when this moment has passed we will find ourselves again; but at present we have no light ahead. "Where there is no vision, the people perish," said Solomon, and the wisdom of his words is written in the history of every nation that has lived on this earth. The people of America are seeking, groping, yearning for a new vision of political and industrial democracy which shall be less selfish and more devoted to the welfare of humanity than anything we have yet seen. We librarians, custodians of the books that feed men's minds, must be watchers for the dawn. We cannot stand aloof from these things: we must study them carefully, ourselves, in order not to be "blown about by every wind of doctrine": watch for the books which deal with the situation frankly, honestly, and above all, constructively: buy them for our people: and see to it that they are read.

A New Card Form

The Public library of San Francisco has prepared a deposit card for transient users of the library. It not only keeps a record of the issue and return of the books, but acts as a receipt of the deposit for both library and patron.

Certification, Standardization and Library Training

Abridged from the report of the special committee on certification, standardization and library training presented at the Colorado Springs Conference of the A. L. A., June, 1920.

The committee is convinced that the establishment of a board confined chiefly to giving professional certificates based on examinations, library experience or the possession of library school diplomas or certificates might obstruct rather than promote professional standards. Any board whose purpose is to raise professional standards should have a wider scope. Examinations should be incidental, not fundamental in the board's activities. In its attempts to promote better professional status for librarians thru established standards for professional training or experience, such a board should investigate and evaluate all agencies for training in library methods and should correlate their work into a coherent and comprehensive system which should furnish the greatest practicable opportunity to the greatest number of library workers. It should recommend the establishment of new training agencies as needed and should establish grades of library service and provide for suitable credentials based on training and experience.

The A. L. A. committee on library training, the Professional training section, the committee on Standardization of libraries and certification of librarians, the Association of American library schools, the League of library commissions, the Special libraries association, the Secondary education and Library departments of the National education association are all studying the future of training and standing of librarians.

Library training

All these, and other organizations, are needed to act with any board of library standardization and certification. They can not well perform the centralized functions properly belonging to such a board, but there are other ways in which they can assist. Many potential phases

of library training are as yet quite undeveloped, or only partially developed.

The establishment of a reasonable basis of credit would require the evaluation of both experience and training and would insure substantial justice to the ambitious librarian unable to attend a lengthy course in a training class or library school. It would make it easier for such library worker to continue her professional studies in a library school or other recognized training agency in case an opportunity to attend the class or school should arise. It might also enable the library schools to improve their courses by eliminating much elementary routine work and instruction which are now necessarily included in the courses.

Standardization

Certification necessarily implies some standard of experience and training on which credits may be based, hence standardization in its broad sense is implied in the creation of any board such as is here indicated. In view of the existing committee of the A. L. A. on Standardization, which has been making a study of this subject, this special committee makes no definite suggestions on standardization but assumes that the board will utilize the results of such investigation.

Credentials

By taking a broad view of the field the board would issue credentials based on quality of training and experience rather than on mere length of service (irrespective of its type or value) or on the mere possession or non-possession of a school certificate. Such credentials would be of the greatest value to the A. L. A. or any agency for recommending workers for library vacancies and would help remove any misunderstandings and distinctions based merely on attendance or non-attendance at library school or training classes.

The makeup of such a board presents difficulties. To be representative it must include varied leading types of library work. It must not be so large as to be unwieldy. Since its functions are advisory and legislative, it must detail its executive work to an executive staff. Its

success will therefore largely depend on financial support sufficient to obtain the services of a competent executive staff, preferably at A. L. A. headquarters.

The proposed board

The committee recommends the creation of a board of nine members, five to be elected by the council of the American Library Association, one of whom shall represent a public library with a training class, one a small public library, one a state or federal library and one a college or reference library. The four other members shall be elected by the Council upon nomination by each of the following organizations: the Association of American library schools, the League of library commissions, the National Education association and the Special libraries association. In regard to the fifth member to be elected by the council, the committee is divided. The majority prefer to leave the library connection of this member unassigned in order to give a wider range of choice. To provide continuity of policy and definite terms of service two of the members elected by the Council should be elected each year at the annual meeting of the A. L. A. for a term of two years. The fifth member elected by the Council and the four members elected on nomination of the library organizations named above should be elected for a term of five years each, one being elected each year at the annual meeting of the A. L. A. This will, after four years, result in the election of three new members annually. It will insure continuity of policy, while permitting enough change of membership to prevent undue conservatism.

Summary

To summarize, the board could serve the purpose which similar boards in other professions such as the American Medical association, the national and state bar associations, etc., are serving. It could help give the public some fairly concrete idea of the character and value of library work by approving practical standards of library work based on real library conditions. It could improve the status of library workers by recognizing

thru credentials the services of those whose work or training enabled them to meet successfully the standards required for good library work. Thru improvement in the quality of library training agencies and thru multiplying opportunities for using these agencies it could virtually eliminate the need of any library worker's being deprived of at least some measure of professional training. It could act, not as an autocracy aiming at arbitrary uniformity or equally arbitrary distinction, but it could stand back of any honest attempt to improve the quality of library service as far as such improvement would be possible under local conditions.

Specific recommendations

1. That a National board of certification for librarians be established by the American Library Association and that permanent provision for such a board be incorporated in the constitution of the association.

2. That this Board shall investigate all existing agencies for teaching library subjects and methods, shall evaluate their work for purposes of certification, shall seek to correlate these agencies into an organized system and to that end shall recommend such new agencies as seem to it desirable and shall establish grades of library service with appropriate certificates. It shall actively coöperate with any official bureau of information or registration established by any of the professional organizations electing or nominating members of the board.

3. That the creation of such a board shall have for one of its purposes the stimulation, thru state and local library commissions or associations, of the improvement of library service and the professional status of library workers. The board shall render these organizations all possible assistance in any such action as is contemplated by them.

4. That, pending constitutional provision for such a board, the executive board of the American Library Association be instructed to appoint a special committee of nine members to be constituted substantially as outlined in the foregoing report.

5. That adequate financial support for this board be provided from funds procured thru the Enlarged Program campaign or otherwise.

ALICE S. TYLER,
ADELINE B. ZACHERT,
A. S. ROOT,
C. C. WILLIAMSON,
FRANK K. WALTER, Chairman.

Standardization, Certification and Library Salaries

The report of the committee on Standardization and certification of the New York Library association which was presented to the association at Lake Placid, Sept. 20-25 restates forcibly several conclusions which are worthy of general adoption with such local changes as may be necessary.

The committee had been instructed by a resolution "to investigate the question of library salaries and to prepare and report plans for their improvement thru state and local legislation or otherwise." Instead of the usual tables of comparative statistics the committee submitted an outline of a personal budget for a library worker. An abridgement of the report follows:

Instead of proposing a given salary minimum based on its own investigations, the Committee recommends that librarians and library trustees having full knowledge of local conditions should take this outline budget and make a fair allowance for each item therein. The total of all the individual items will not be far from a reasonable minimum salary. Library boards making a conscientious use of this outline may feel satisfied that they are not guilty of paying less than is required for a decent standard of subsistence. Librarians paid in accordance with this plan will at least be relieved from the necessity of becoming or remaining objects of charity on the one hand, or reducing their standard of living at some point so as to impair their physical or general efficiency.

Annual Expense Budget Schedule for Single Women Living in

	Cost per year
Room rent	\$
Board, including lunches.....	
Clothing:	

(Note. The full report goes into considerable detail, 40 items being indicated under this head alone.)

Laundry	
Health maintenance	
Dentistry	
Oculist, glasses, etc.....	
Amusements and recreation (exclusive of vacation)	
Contributions for religious and charitable purposes	
Gifts to personal friends.....	
Books, magazines and papers.....	
Dues for professional, educational and social organizations.....	
Carfares	
Vacation (Transportation, board and incidentals)	
Incidental expenses	
Insurance, life and health.....	
Savings	
Total budget	\$

A minimum salary based on the cost of the barest necessities is the first and most obvious step to be achieved. Every librarian worthy of the name is, however, to be considered not merely as an unskilled worker, or even as a public charge, and therefore entitled to a minimum standard of physical welfare. But the further fact must not be overlooked that the librarian is placed in a position of leadership in the cultural and educational affairs of the community and must be able by her professional attainments and earning power to command the respect of all classes. A large part of every community will have but scant respect for those who occupy the lower economic strata of society. It is possible that an exceptionally high professional standard might tend to offset the handicap of poverty, but no worthy professional standard is possible for those who are engaged in a constant struggle to keep themselves above the poverty line.

We feel that librarians are justified in demanding "an income which provides for professional and intellectual growth as well."

It is generally conceded that the profession most nearly analogous to library work is that of teaching. Both schools and libraries are indispensable parts of public education and range from the elementary instruction of the village school and the elementary service of the village library to the complex organization of the city school system and the diversified and highly specialized service of the city library system and so admit of comparison at various points within that range. Similar educational preparation is desirable for both kinds of work and both demand somewhat similar natural characteristics and abilities to insure success. It is therefore essential for the best development of these two branches of the public service that neither should be placed at the disadvantage of being obliged to offer less than the other by way of compensation.

Your committee is of the opinion that the teacher-standard as the ultimate goal for library salaries is by no means too high, particularly in view of the generally admitted insufficiency of teachers' salaries.

The committee believes that one important reason for the failure of librarians to receive a compensation equal to that of teachers is to be found in the lack of standardization of library service and of provision for the certification of librarians. In these respects the schools have travelled much farther than the libraries. The committee therefore recommends the indorsement of the "teacher-standard" for librarians, with full realization that it necessitates the development of the library into an educative force in the community not less vital than the schools and the raising of the standards of admission to library service until they shall compare favorably with those demanded of teachers.

The committee recommends an immediate effort to put into effect the teacher-standard wherever the conditions warrant it, and the setting of this standard as a goal toward which our efforts, individual their work as are teachers.

The committee does not believe, however, that it will be possible to attain the modest teacher-standard of compensation for library work without standardization of library service and a complete system of certification for librarians. The teaching profession has advanced by this route. The rules of the Board of Regents require that "a teacher must possess a certificate of qualification before she enters into contract to teach" and it is also stipulated that "no trustee or board of education may make a legal contract with a teacher who is not legally qualified."

The association last year expressed a preference for certification based on regents' rules to a system embodied in legislation. The present committee is in full accord with that view. It has seemed to it necessary, however, to have the Education law so amended as to empower the Regents explicitly to fix standards of library service and to require libraries receiving public money to conform to such standards. The chief incentive to registration at present is the \$100 of state money allotted annually to libraries fulfilling the requirements. The committee is of the opinion that any system of certification which is voluntary or in which the motive for acceptance is a very small subsidy, is bound to fail. Certification by the state in any profession and occupation is compulsory. Any other method of state certification is inherently unsound.

As there has been some misunderstanding in regard to the effect of the tentative proposals made last year, it may be well to state specifically that this plan

1. Applies only to the position of head librarian or director;

2. Is compulsory only in places of 3000 population or over;

3. Is compulsory only as vacancies occur after the plan is put into effect;

4. Does not provide for the issuance of certificates to those who do not qualify for them; but

5. Does not deprive anyone of his present position.

The present plan does not provide for as high a standard as could be desired, but it goes as far as seems feasible as an initial step. Certification has been limited to head librarians because it does not appear to be wise to go further than this at first. The appointment of a competent head librarian, however, will do much to improve the quality of service in subordinate positions. The requirements for obtaining certificates of the last two grades are necessarily very elementary, for in small communities it is usually necessary to employ a local resident who has had little opportunity to acquire technical knowledge of library work.

It has seemed to the committee that with the plan of certification proposed there should be coupled a small state appropriation to be paid to libraries which employ certificated librarians. A proposal for service grants is therefore submitted which provides an allotment of public money to be used toward the payment of the salary of head librarians. The grants would be limited to the payment of head librarians; branch librarians are not included. No grants would be paid to any library not having a certificated librarian. The service grants would not affect in any way the present distribution of money for the purchase of books, but would be supplementary to it.

The plan, in brief, provides state service grants varying from a minimum of \$25 for communities of 5000 population and under to a maximum of \$350 for places with a population of 25,001 and over. Communities are divided into four classes according to population. In communities of the first group, the grant would range from \$25 to \$150, on condition that twice the amount of the grant is raised locally for the same purpose, that is, the salary of the head librarian. In communities of the second class three times the amount of the grant must be raised locally, in the third class four times, and in the fourth class five times the amount of the grant must be raised locally. In the smallest communities claiming the maximum grant the librarian would receive a minimum salary of \$450; in the next group, \$1000; in the third, \$1500; and in the fourth group a city claiming the maximum state grant would have to pay the librarian at least \$2100.

Although places of less than 3000 population have been exempted from the requirement to employ a certificated librarian, if they should voluntarily choose to employ such a one, they would be entitled to claim a state grant for library service.

If every library in the state which would ultimately be required to have a certificated librarian should apply for the maximum allowance in its class, the total sum required from the state would be only \$29,000. Allowing for such libraries in places of less than 3000 as might choose to comply with the requirements and claim state aid, not more than \$35,000 would be needed. A system of state grants for teachers' salaries is now in operation. If the state can pay millions toward teachers' salaries, it certainly ought to pay a few thousand dollars toward librarians' salaries.

The committee recommends that the association adopt the certification plan as presented, together with the plan for service grants, and use every means at its command to put them into effect during the coming year. Nothing is to be gained by continued delay.

Emma V. Baldwin,
Joseph D. Ibbotson,
W. R. Watson,
William F. Yust,
C. C. Williamson, Chairman.

The Louvain University Library

The *New York Tribune* calls attention to the fact that only \$140,000 of the \$500,000 needed for restoration of the Louvain university library has been collected. "The remainder should be promptly raised," says the *Tribune*. "That a complete library building for the sacked and burned university should be the gift of the American people is eminently fitting. The library itself with its priceless collections, cannot, alas! be restored. But it can be replaced by a perpetual reminder of American admiration and sympathy. Cardinal Mercier has said that the University of Louvain is 'the strongest bulwark of social order and Christianity in Belgium,' and that 'its revival is essential to the moral reconstruction of the country.'" Other newspaper clippings assert that the Germans have not as yet returned any of the material removed from the library at the time it was destroyed by them.

Attitude of Authors Toward Libraries

In a recent article in the *St. Louis Star* by Dr A. E. Bostwick, the writer says, that authors write about every thing but libraries. He states that he has examined a great number of books, in the writing of which the library has borne a large and notable part without finding a single mention of that part or any evidence that the author had cognizance of it.

He chooses for examination a number of books which had been sent into his office on a truck for a different purpose. In all of the subjects of which these books treat, the library has a distinct influence but he finds not a word about libraries in any one of them. The books are, *The college and a new America*, Jay W. Hudson; *America and the new era*, a symposium on social reconstruction, Elisha M. Friedman, with a foreword by Herbert Hoover. This last includes essays by experts in the field of religion, internationalism, public administration and justice with no mention of a library, not even in the index of 6 pages where education occupies half a column.

The idea of progress, by J. B. Bury of Cambridge, England, is a very comprehensive work, but the library as a factor of progress has no place in his treatment of ideas.

Maintenance of peace, Col. S. C. Vestal. It might be thought that the work of the library should be counted among the factors that make for peace, but in this instance the word is not even in the copious index.

Character and opinion in the United States, by George Santayana, recently of Harvard university. Evidently he does not consider that the public library has any part in that work.

The religious consciousness by James B. Pratt of Williams' college, does not number the library among its sources.

The volume, *West and East*, by Edward Caldwell Moore, shows the naturalization and christianity of the

Orient. In dealing with the features that Japan has borrowed from western civilization, the library is most interesting, but no mention is made of it. The library work in China is a potent force there but Mr Moore gives no recognition to it.

The library has had much to do with maintaining the American spirit in vocational guidance, recreation and social evolution but Orison Swett Marden has neglected to take notice of the library in his efforts.

Before the war, Russia was developing an interesting system of libraries. John Pollock, an English writer dwells at length on the "Bolshevik adventure," and nowhere tells what has happened to the library service of that country.

These men who have profited so largely by the library service, Dr Bostwick thinks, count for nothing in their service to the library as an institution and for a long time to come the library must depend on the public press to interpret it.

English Newsletter

London, October 26, 1920.

The most important event to be recorded this month is undoubtedly the conference of the Library association held at Norwich during the week commencing September 6. The occasion was of importance not only because of the many developments to be considered now that our horizon has been widened to an almost unlimited extent by the Public Libraries Act of 1919, but also because then the man who had been largely instrumental in securing this first outlook—the Rt Hon. J. Herbert Lewis, M. P., Parliamentary secretary to the Board of Education—made his debut as president of the Library association. In his address he did not attempt to do more than summarize our ideals and foresee some possibilities, but this he did so well as to excuse, I hope, a few quotations from his speech—"The demand for social reform comes just after the greatest of all wars, at a time when

the national debt has been swollen to gigantic proportions, and when taxation has become a crushing burden. But we shall all agree that money spent upon libraries will be money well spent, and that to do nothing to develop library service might easily prove a very false form of economy. It has been well said that 'the greatest need in modern culture is to find some effective agency for cherishing within us an ideal' and no agency can be more effective, I think, than the dissemination of good literature and the habit of reading... National thought and national effort will, necessarily, be very largely devoted for some time to repairing the material losses occasioned by the war... but there is some danger, I fear lest in dealing with the material we overlook the spiritual losses due to the war... Among the reactions occasioned by the war we may find a wave of materialism which must be combatted if true progress is to be secured... The electors of this country should have such contact with books as will enable them to form sound and enlightened opinions about the many pressing problems that confront them, both political and economic... Public libraries should be, and indeed are, one of the most influential factors in adult education... The librarian is much more than a custodian of books; he is, in the broadest sense, an adult education officer, and a very large responsibility rests upon him. Keen and competent librarians do much not only to meet demands but to create them... The establishment of connection between the school population and the public library should be fostered as a means not only of rendering immediate help both to the children and the schools, but of securing at a later date a large increase in the number of regular users of libraries."

Mr Frank Pacy followed this address with a paper on "The new opportunity," written in the somewhat provoking yet soundly critical style one always associates with the association's honorary secretary. When I say that he advocated increased control over library affairs, which, he said, could not but benefit by

the discipline of an expert central authority, it is unnecessary to add that his remarks met with much opposition and criticism. Among his critics was Mr L. Stanley Jast who, by saying that "we must stand in the main as representing the humanities," gave utterance to one of the most telling of the many aphorisms with which the proceedings were thickly strewn.

Rural library schemes naturally occupied a lion's share of the time, naturally by reason of the fact that only this year has any real development of library facilities outside the towns been possible. Thanks to the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust several schemes are now in active operation, as you know, and during the next six years some fifty counties are to receive substantial initial grants of about £2,000 each from the Trust. So it was appropriate that, at the conference, Lt Col J. M. Mitchell, its secretary, should have an opportunity to outline the history of its past work and indicate its plans for the future. Other aspects of the subject were dealt with by Mr H. Tapley Soper, librarian of Exeter ("Co-operative work between urban and rural libraries"), and the Rev Basil Yeaxlee ("Libraries and adult education in rural areas").

Another vital subject was broached by Mr H. R. Tedder, librarian of the Athenaeum, whose examination of "the reports of the latest royal commission on public records" served to draw attention to the urgent necessity for carrying out the recommendations of the commission—particularly those concerning local records. A resolution to this effect was passed by the meeting.

Very interesting, too, was Mr Albert Mansbridge's paper on "The central library for students," in which it was stated that to place the library on a proper footing, as suggested in the Ministry of Reconstruction's Adult Education committee's report, some £65,000 would be needed for books, £25,000 for the initial portion of the premises, and an income of £5,000 per annum for working expenses. I am afraid, however, that there is little possibility of any state aid being given to this institution at pres-

ent—altho the work done at present on a very small income is so splendid as to insure that this state assistance would be by no means misplaced.

For the rest, Mr W. C. Berwick Sayers dealt with "The type of a public library"—a very sensible, well balanced discussion of the amount and nature of the library provision desirable in any given area—, Mr J. Bulman Smith, of the National library for the blind, with "Library work for the blind," and Mr E. W. Hulme with "The subject index to periodicals." As possibly you have seen, the first section of the 1917-19 volume of this index appeared some few weeks ago and the remainder of the volume is now in the press. Both as regards the wide range of periodicals indexed and the arrangement of the entries, the L. A. subject index is altogether excellent; if only it can be kept reasonably up to date it will prove invaluable. I have no hesitation in bringing it to the notice of any of you who may not already use it.

Another very important conference—convened by the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, to discuss rural library problems,—is being held in London early in November.

Leeds public libraries have just completed 50 years work, the occasion being celebrated with a special exhibition displaying some of the resources of the library, and by a jubilee meeting at which the Minister of Education, Mr H. A. L. Fisher, was the principal speaker. These libraries are in a very flourishing condition and play a very considerable part in the life of the city, so it is only right that the excellent work of the chief librarian, Mr W. T. Hand, should be recognized. The well-produced booklet, "A brief account of the public libraries of Leeds, 1870-1920," issued in connection with the celebrations, gives a very interesting account of the development of the system, which now houses over 350,000 volumes, and which issued nearly a million and a half books last year.

The monthly meetings of the library association were resumed this month, the first being a joint conference of that as-

sociation and the Museums association, to discuss possibilities of coöperation. The proposal that the two associations should amalgamate was made but, quite rightly, I think, did not meet with the approval of the meeting.

I should mention that acts amending the library laws of Scotland and of Ireland—substantially the same as mentioned in my last letter—have now received the royal assent.

LIONEL ROY MCCOLVIN.

An Appeal from Poland

An appeal from the libraries of Poland has been received at the A. L. A. Headquarters. Reviewing the great wasted country, the torture and troubles and ills that have raged for years in the vicinity of Limberg as one and another of the fighting armies have gone thru the land, the appeal calls attention to the fact that this city, Limberg, called Lwow, has stood 21 invasions by the Tartars, 7 sieges by the Turks and Cossacks, has been called the Bulwark of Christianity, has now reached the point in the present invasion of 6 months of hunger, lack of water, light and heat. The people are obliged to endure the repeated sound of the firing of cannon and rifles. On account of the great need, the people are dying and the misery increases.

In all of this representatives of the library profession, teachers of the schools and universities and the librarians with fixed incomes without material means, clothing and food, see little relief from their daily troubles.

Attention is called to the fact that the large number of librarians were poorly rewarded before the war and now are suffering great misery.

It is only their extreme need that offers an excuse for revealing the awful truth and sending the appeal.

Mr Herbert Hoover created the American Relief Administration Warehouses, and the appeals addressed to the libraries of America are most gripping to send help to the Polish librarians in the form of Hoover food drafts. On the receipt of

such drafts the librarians can secure from the warehouses wholesome American food.

The letter is signed by the librarians association of Lwow with the names of 36 members.

The appeal should touch the hearts of the librarians of America and a response be made to it. For even the small amount of \$1 of American money goes very far in the war ports of Europe. While librarians in America have not profited by war as other lines of endeavor have, their hearts have been enlarged by their sympathies.

Here is a fine chance for service.

N. Y. Special Libraries

The New York special libraries association held its opening meeting of the year on October 22.

The meeting was a dinner given in the Municipal lunch room on the twenty-sixth floor of the Municipal building. An informal social time preceded and followed the dinner. The 150 persons who attended were enthusiastic about the success of it. An informal talk of welcome by the president, Miss Rankin, outlined the plans of the association for the year stating briefly the four aims:

- 1 More interesting meetings.
- 2 Increased membership.
- 3 Compilation of information about the Special libraries in New York City and the publication of this in a handbook.
- 4 Close coöperation with the National Special Libraries association.

The membership committee reported 76 new members at the end of the evening. Before the year is over it is anticipated the membership will include every special librarian in the city.

The officers of the association are:

Rebecca B. Rankin, librarian, Municipal reference library, president; Mr Frank Place, New York academy of medicine, vice president; Miss Gertrude D. Peterkin, American Telephone and Telegraph Co. legal library, secretary-treasurer.

Caring for War Posters

What has been done with the war posters? No doubt they have been cared for, but I do not recall seeing any method described in your numbers. I am interested to know how the proposition was met by libraries unable to buy the regulation standard for posters, which is doubtless the most satisfactory. I agonized over a plan for quite a while.

Realizing it was vacation work, and must be done then or not at all, we used a very simple method. We mounted each one on cheesecloth, 70 in all allowing the cloth to extend beyond the posters at the top about 6 inches. These were all nailed between two narrow strips of boards, and fastened on a heavy oak easel at the top. The whole book has a decorative cover of heavy cardboard extending full length of the largest poster, about 42x32 in. We used parts of two posters to make the cover, and put on this inscription:

The Spirit of America in the World War.

It seems to me that is what the posters do represent. A strip of brown denim covers the top piece of wood and connects the outside cardboard cover. The extra 6 in. of cloth on each poster allows them to turn back over the easel very easily like a hinge. It would protect the edges to bind them with tape, as they will show wear in time, but would take hundreds of yards of tape.

Care must be taken not to stretch the cloth after it is wet with paste, or it will wrinkle the poster when dry, and it is best to use the cloth lengthwise. The cloth for all of them can be cut and laid on top of each one ready for pasting, as that is the slow part, and then the pasting can all be done at once. After mounting we followed a certain sequence of events, but put all the food posters together, the library ones in their own group, etc. The Liberty loans are in their order of five groups, and the last were the

ones to encourage the returned soldiers, among them being our splendid library poster entitled "Knowledge Wins."

Many of the posters are so vivid, as well as artistic that they make a very interesting history.

ETHEL A. WASHBURN.

Public library, Greenville, Ill.

Traveling Bookbinding Exhibits

The A. L. A. bookbinding exhibits have been shown during the past year at 21 places, including public libraries, library schools, state, interstate and district meetings, and library institutes. Exhibit number 2, which is serving the western section, was displayed at the conference of the National Education Association at Salt Lake City, July 4 to 10, in connection with the School library exhibit.

These exhibits give practical illustrations of approved methods of binding and repair for libraries. Each is composed mainly of books which are mounted on boards convenient for display, with explanatory notes, the boards and books being compactly fitted into a small metal box which is easily shipped. The receiving library pays transportation charges from the last point, which is the only item of expense in the transaction.

Requests for the loan of these exhibits should be addressed to Mary E. Wheelock, Public library, St. Louis.

Books in the War

Marshal Foch has written a preface for the French edition of Theodore W. Koch's "Books in the war," which Edouard Champion is publishing this month under the title "*Les livres à la guerre*." There is also an introduction by Burton E. Stevenson and an added chapter on the American library in Paris. The number of illustrations has been increased to 144 full pages.

The Louisville, Ky., free public library has issued in bookmark form its new and liberalized book and magazine privileges which became effective Nov. 1, 1920.

Monthly—Except August
and September.

Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - -	\$12 a year	Foreign Subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Regional and National Library Associations

THERE can be no question of the value of local library meetings not only to the territory of such meetings but equally for the contribution which such meetings make to the national library fiber. The A. L. A. has profited year by year from the library spirit born out of a state or regional meeting and its higher ideals can not be carried out without the interest and contributions from the local meetings. Where a state is fairly well organized in its library service, the state library meeting affords an opportunity for exchange of plans of work and for an exchange of opinions relating to state supervision, to library legislation for the state, to extension work, to the relation of state institutions and schools and to any other question in which the state as a factor comes in. Such meetings are necessary as a forum for public discussions and to prevent any one person or group from assuming a dictatorship or protectorate that is alien to the spirit of the true democratic system of education.

But in the large area of library development there is just as necessary a place for the national body. This place can be filled only by the will of a country-wide membership bringing to a common

center the best that has been said and done. Thru that same membership it can mould the ideas and practices which it contributes into something even better that shall form the basis for professional service and give the impulse in a larger way to all efforts thruout the country looking to a higher development of library service.

There is no form of library service, either public or private, which can truly say that it is not concerned in these national meetings. The theories of today are sifted for tomorrow's practice and every library endeavor will profit sooner or later by the efforts of a national body.

But there is a proposed form of regional library organization whose existence can be justified over and beyond the state organization only on the ground of sparsely settled regions. The Pacific Northwest library association is such a one, so is a southern conference, but that does not open the door for the whole Pacific Coast to organize, nor the New England states, nor the Mississippi Valley.

The writer once proposed biennial meetings of the A. L. A. and thinks still the idea is worth discussion tho it was

smothered by those in authority at the time who were of a different mind. Since the past tempestuous two years have destroyed the immunity of the con-

stitution to touch or discussion, the subject of biennial meetings instead of annual meetings may be offered again for discussion.

The Problem of Certification

MORE progress in the direction of certification of librarians and standardization of library work is apparent since the Colorado Springs conference than in any similar period since the A. L. A. was established. Part of this is probably due to a better understanding of what these terms mean. Part of it may be due to a growing recognition of the fact that quantity of salary and quality of work are to a considerable degree inseparable.

In nearly every case where any organized effort to raise library salaries has been made it has been coupled with an attempt to base increased salary on recognized ability or a required period of special training and experience.

The growing demand for a central employment agency for librarians will also help the movement for more definite professional standards. The special committee on standardization and certification has recognized all of these as part of one general movement. It has also emphasized the need of financial support for a competent executive staff for the board which it recommends.

The failure to secure adequate funds for the enlarged program will inevitably delay the full realization of the committee's recommendations. The adoption of the report seems to make necessary the appointment of a special committee of the A. L. A. on the subject.

The interest shown by many state associations and their attempt to secure early, definite action in their respective states indicates that some kind of central supervision of these matters will be necessary soon.

All this points to the desirability of a strong committee to keep the matter active in the American library association.

At the same time, the recommendation on which the committee is based in the report is coupled with others which directly or implicitly recognize the inadequacy of a committee alone.

It is to be hoped that an opportunity to discuss these questions further will be given at the mid-winter meeting. Dropping the matter because of inadequate funds seems deplorable at this time when interest is keen and the need of the service so great. Premature launching of plans which would be sure to die because of inadequate means to carry them on would be more regrettable and might go far to undo much of the good work already done locally.

How can the difficulty be best met under present conditions? The problem is one worthy to engage the thought and constructive tendencies of every member of the A. L. A. or of any of the other organizations which are expected to co-operate with it. The American library institute, which is supposed to consider some of the more weighty questions concerning the profession could well make it the subject of one or more sessions at its next meeting.

Needless to say, what is needed is not more glittering generalities on vague policies—there have already been enough of those—but definite plans which are practicable as well as definite.

County Library Number

The January, 1921, issue of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* will be a special county library number, covering the best current theory and practice in the establishment of this phase of library development. Considerable material on the subject may also be found in the library association proceedings included in the present number.

American Library Association

Mid-winter meeting

The thirteenth annual mid-winter meetings will be held at Chicago, December 27, 28, 29, at the Hotel La Salle.

There will be two open afternoon sessions of the A. L. A. council at which the subjects: "Sources and responsibilities for public library revenues" and "Field and functions of a national professional organization" will be discussed. There will probably also be an open session of the Publishing board to discuss A. L. A. publications.

The League of library commissions, which holds its annual meetings each year at this time will hold two or more sessions. There will probably also be informal meetings of university librarians, small college librarians, normal school librarians and public school librarians.

Any other groups desiring to hold meetings at this time should communicate at once with the secretary in order that the necessary arrangements may be made. Hotel rates at the La Salle will be as follows:

Single room, without bath, \$2.50; single room, with bath, \$5; double room, without bath, \$4; double room, with bath, \$7.

Reservations should be made directly with the hotel as early as possible.

Further announcements will be made in the November *A. L. A. Bulletin*.

CARL H. MILAM, Secretary.

A Message to State Library Associations

From the President of the A. L. A.

Fellow Librarians:

The American Library Association is our great professional organization. Without it library progress in this country would have been isolated, ineffective and sporadic. It has given us an understanding and appreciation of each other's problems and a common and united power and influence in the world of books that would have been impossible without organization.

We are all, therefore, debtors to those who were far-seeing enough to recognize the need and who have thru 42 years

maintained and developed this organization which has fostered and developed the work of education thru books and reading.

To the young library worker, just entering the profession, the call of the A. L. A. is clear and insistent for we need your enthusiasm, your optimism and your fearlessness. You have an inheritance of library ideals and library service created and fostered under difficulties and a history of accomplishment you should cherish. The A. L. A. calls for your youthful energy and support in making a yet greater and more influential organization in the work of popular education.

To the older and more experienced librarians who have not been identified with the A. L. A. we ask you to consider the professional value that a national association has and to support it. More vital relationships since the splendid war service record has been made and a larger organization will give added power and dignity to our future undertakings. There are large possibilities ahead in the opportunities that open up in making books vital factors in Americanization, in citizenship, in business and in personal development and culture.

The state association is essential. Thru it the problems and opportunities that are distinctive in each state can be met with an understanding of conditions, more or less local, and a spirit of fellowship and united purpose can thus be developed. But the parent association,—the A. L. A.,—has a supreme service to render to the entire profession. It came into existence 14 years before the first state library association was organized. Both are needed and it has been a cherished hope of mine that adjustments might be made in the organization of the A. L. A. that would provide for a vital and organic connection between the A. L. A. and every state library association.

Presidents come and go from year to year, making a more or less meager contribution to the onward progress of librarianship, but the American library association with a real purpose and as the embodiment of larger ideals of book-

service, must go on to greater and enlarging fields of usefulness. A larger membership will help. We must work for it. You are needed as a fellow worker in this united purpose. Will not your state meeting add many names to the A. L. A. membership?

With greetings and best wishes for a successful meeting and trusting the year may be resultful in helpful service and personal growth for each one, I am

Faithfully yours,

ALICE S. TYLER,
President.

Opportunities for Library Training

Many young women are interested in library work who cannot at the present time, for one reason or another, enter library schools. Yet these young women have a definite place in library work and a valuable contribution to make to it. Fortunately several, at least, of the large libraries of the country conduct apprentice classes which are open to both resident and non-resident applicants, thus making available the beginning of formal training to those possessing required personal and educational qualifications. Some of the Library Schools are so affiliated with public libraries that members of the library staffs may take regulated part time work in the school, thus opening a way for the ambitious, well prepared individual to receive library school training. Inquiry may be made at A. L. A. Headquarters, 78 East Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, regarding libraries offering apprentice training to non-local people, as well as regarding library opportunities in general.

Financial Report

The Executive Committee has prepared a detailed report of which the following is a very brief summary:

Enlarged Program Campaign

Balance on hand September 31. . . \$21,577.04

"Books for everybody" fund

Collections and Pledges, October 1, 1920

Cash	\$32,750.71
Pledges	36,410.35
Total	\$69,160.86

Library war service

Balances and receipts.....	\$356,909.44
Expenditures (Incl. transfers)...	153,550.55

Balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1920. \$203,358.89

Library Service for Churches

The Public library of St. Paul is arranging an interesting form of library service, namely, that for the church and Sunday-school work of that city. This service aims at:

1) Provision of all books of general interest for reference study in the central library.

2) Provision of a sufficient number of copies of the most useful of these to supply the need for home reading.

3) Provision of church music, lantern slides and other illustrated material for use in study.

The library will attempt to collect only such histories of the church and such religious literature as is of interest to the members of more than one sect. The church choir collection now numbers about 100 titles of from 40 to 75 copies each which may be borrowed for a period of one month.

Lists of books and other material on special subjects for the use of study classes will be furnished upon request.

Blasco-Ibañez or Ibañez?

Mr. Manuel Elkin of Concord, N. H., wrote a letter to the author of "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," which was for so long a best seller, with regard to his name. The answer will interest catalogers who have long been puzzled on the subject:

My true family name is Blasco-Ibañez; so am I known in Spain. My Christian name, or baptismal name, as we say in my country, is Vicente.

But in America, you have begun, at times, to call me Ibañez, and I have even seen my name in some of the newspapers as Vicente B. Ibañez, which shortens it by half. I am going to give orders, that in the future, in the English translations, it is to be put in full:—Blasco-Ibañez.

In October I think of going to the United States, and if I can, in any way, be of service to you, I am at your disposal.

Hearty greetings,

Vicente Blasco-Ibañez.

Library Meetings

Illinois library association—1920 Conference County libraries

The Illinois library association held its 24th annual meeting in Springfield, October 12-14, at the Leland Hotel. There was an unusually good attendance. One hundred and fifty registered and a number present probably did not register. The executive board held a meeting at 2 p. m. Tuesday. Helen A. Bagley, Anna May Price, Katherine Abbott, S. P. Prowse and Josie B. Houchens were present.

The first session met Tuesday afternoon. The president, Miss Helen A. Bagley, opened the meeting. The report of the secretary was read. The treasurer reported a balance on hand October 9 of \$279.67. Receipts for 1919-20 were \$240.10. Disbursements were \$263.22. There was \$302.79 balance in the treasury from previous years. A membership of 253 was reported. The reports were accepted.

Miss Anna May Price, in giving a report on the state library extension commission laid special stress on the success of the district meetings held during the year, which were planned on a larger and better scale than ever before. There were 15 meetings, at each of which some member of the executive board, the Illinois library association and the secretary of the library commission was present. One hundred and eighty-two librarians and trustees representing 152 libraries took part in these meetings. The commission reported the establishment of six new libraries. Warren county library is the first county library to be established under the new law. All of the new libraries voted the maximum tax.

Mr Windsor next gave the report of the A. L. A. conference delegate. He called attention to three interesting features of the meetings. First: the general under-current of feeling on the Enlarged Program, and especially on the campaign for funds. Second: there was a good deal of discussion in regard to the revision of the constitution of the A. L. A. The constitution committee

had made an effort to give more power to the executive board and take away some of the power of the council. In the final revision the council was retained with almost its former authority. Third: there was considerable discussion about the working conditions among librarians and assistants and the question of professional standing of library assistants was brought up. The library workers' association was rather actively present and accomplished a good deal. For the first time library assistants had papers in an afternoon session on matters of interest to assistants. Mr Windsor felt that it was rather a sad commentary on the fact that head librarians had monopolized the activities of the A. L. A. and he felt very strongly that this should not be so in a professional association. He said that the matter of the standing of library assistants was of as much interest to the state meeting as to the A. L. A.

Miss Helen A. Bagley reported on the post conference trip to Estes Park, and appointed the following committees:

Resolutions: Eva M. Fowler, Clara Boyle, Carl H. Milam; Auditing: C. V. Ritter, Adah F. Whitcomb, Katherine Abbott; Nominating: M. E. Ahern, Ida F. Wright, J. L. Woodruff; Social: Martha Wilson, Chairman. Members: Springfield library staffs and officers of the association.

Miss Bagley called attention to the deficit in the treasury for this year and to the necessity of increasing the membership of the association. She reported that the Executive board would like to make the following expenditures, but felt that funds were inadequate. First: printing a new list of members which would cost about \$35.00. Second: Providing members with copies of PUBLIC LIBRARIES containing the proceedings of the I. L. A., estimate \$65.00. Third: Continuing the district meetings which would run from \$75.00 to \$100.00. Mr Windsor moved that the proceedings of the I. L. A. be printed in PUBLIC LIBRARIES and copies be sent to each member; this was carried. Mr Windsor then moved that the incoming board continue the dis-

trict meetings. Miss Ahern spoke in favor of the interest manifested in these district meetings and suggested that some of the expense might be met by the community. If the community activities were in a way responsible there would be more interest in the meetings. Miss Price said that this had been done to a small extent in several of the towns. Mr Windsor's motion was carried. Miss Lansden moved in favor of printing the names of members. This was discussed by Mr Windsor, Miss Lansden, Miss Wright and Miss Price. Mr Tweedell moved that this matter be referred to the Executive board with the suggestion that the list be published if possible.

Miss Ahern moved that a committee be appointed to draw up resolutions to express appreciation of the work of the late Mr Conklin, a trustee of the Lincoln library.

The Tuesday evening session was called to order promptly at eight o'clock. Secretary of State L. L. Emerson, who was to have given the address of welcome, was unable to be present and Francis G. Blair, state superintendent of public instruction, spoke for a few minutes on the close relation of the library to the education of children. He made a very interesting comparison between a victrola and a book saying that the victrola made it possible for every home to enjoy the wonderful voices of great singers and to become familiar with the work of great musicians, but that the book while more impersonal and less striking in its appeal, was just as instrumental in bringing to every home pictures of society of all ages and opening to the imaginations of children new worlds, and in influencing the personality and character of all those who read them.

He said that books were like the wings of the greatest flying machine invented, and the boy who knew books and loved them could not be provincial because of his familiarity with literature, travel, history and fiction. The librarian has a real opportunity not only for forming the habit of reading among children but for directing and building on it. He welcomed the association to the capitol and

wished that libraries might grow and spread until every hamlet in the state had books of its own.

Helen Bagley then gave the president's address, *After the war, what?* (See p. 559.)

Beauty and the Puritan

Prof Stuart P. Sherman of the University of Illinois gave a most delightful address on "Beauty and the Puritan." He said that everyone recognizes that there is an unusual stirring in American literature today due to the arrival of a new generation of authors who are naturally bent upon making for themselves a place in the sun.

In behalf of the new writers their critical champions are conducting an aggressive campaign against the entire spirit of the national literary tradition. They contend that the development of literature in America has been retarded by the dominating spirit of Puritanism, which, they assert, is fatal to all forms of art.

They are attempting, on the other hand, to create a new literary "atmosphere" friendly to all the fine arts. The notes of the new era are to be ethical indifference and aesthetic fervor.

Puritan and artist misunderstand each other. But he inclines to think that the artist is even more at sea than the Puritan. Puritanism is at present grievously misunderstood and misrepresented. Modifying itself from generation to generation with widening knowledge and sympathies, it remains the great national principle of progress. The central creative force in American affairs, it is still the power of most promise in our civilization.

The type of aestheticism which the young people propose to substitute for it is an importation, an exotic, fostered and recommended mainly by writers whose sympathies are European rather than American, and whose culture is sentimentally cosmopolitan rather than vigorously national.

Native plants are hardiest. In the coming generation effective contributions to the literature of the world will not be made by departing from our national

traditions but by returning to them. Wise criticism will not set beauty and the Puritan at loggerheads. It will rather steadily suggest to the American artist that his special opportunity, his manifest calling, is to make Puritanism beautiful.

County libraries session

The Wednesday morning meeting of the Association was held in the sun-parlors and was opened by a community sing under the direction of Effie A. Lansden. Edward D. Tweedell, assistant librarian of John Crerar library, presided, in place of Geo. B. Utley, librarian of the Newberry library, who was unable to be present.

The first speaker was Professor Luther Robinson of Monmouth College, who spoke on the establishment of the Warren County library. He outlined the plan of campaign followed in that county where the county library law will have its first try-out. He said that the old Warren County library, as established in 1870, was an endowed institution, but never a free library, the fees being \$3.00 a year. When the new county law passed it was felt that the old library should be put on a new basis. At first the trustees felt that the trust funds might be jeopardized in some way, but on the advice of lawyers it was decided that there was nothing in the charter that would be infringed. Monmouth is the county seat and the district is a rich agricultural one, with good roads and a farming population that can easily be reached from a central distributing plant.

The only other library in the county voted to come under the County Library law. A thoro campaign was conducted to get the community interested. Endorsements were obtained from business men; clubs were visited, petitions were distributed throughout townships; regular newspaper publicity kept up. Two weeks before election a very intensive campaign was conducted. Many individuals were approached and asked not only to vote in favor of the measure but to secure other votes. The one mill tax was asked and the contract feature whereby county supervisors and duly appointed boards of library trustees

for the county will enter into a contract with the existing library at Monmouth. To supply books for the county will be one of the first phases.

The finance committee of the Board of County Supervisors cut the appropriation for the operating fund to about \$12,000, or a three-fourths mill tax on the assessed value of the county, instead of \$25,000, which was counted on. Another year will probably bring the full amount of the tax and really begin the work.

Wayne E. Stevens of the War records section of the State historical library described the work of the section. The librarians of Illinois have already been of great service in collecting material pertaining to the participation of Illinois in the war. Before the close of the late war the historians of the United States realized the necessity of preserving contemporary records pertaining to the war, and conferences of historical scholars were held for the purpose of discussing a definite plan of work. The states of the Middle West took a leading part in this movement and in Illinois a War History Committee was formed under the State committee of defense. This work had hardly begun when the armistice came and its continuation was left to the Illinois State historical library. Twenty thousand dollars was appropriated for this purpose by the legislature. The work of the War records section resolved itself into three parts. First, building up a central collection of material bearing upon the more general aspects of Illinois' participation in the war. Second, the organization of a local committee in various counties for the purpose of collecting material pertaining to local war activities. Finally the publication of three or four volumes for which material collected by the State and county committees will form the basis. The field of inquiry has included both the military and civilian activities and the work of individuals as well as organized war agencies. Special attention has also been given to the collection of newspapers covering the period of the war.

Local libraries can do much in the way of preserving miscellaneous periodicals pertaining to war activities. The War record section has an extremely good selection of posters. They are collecting photographs of war activities. Local libraries should devote every effort to collecting honor rolls, county histories and similar publications, and letters and diaries of men in the service. Many of the contemporary records are fast disappearing and the value of this particular class of material could not be over-emphasized.

Mrs Lucy W. Errett, trustee of the Kewanee public library, then spoke on "Getting the board of directors to work." The trustees should think of the library as if it were a business of their own in which they had money invested and from which they expected definite returns. The Board of Directors of any large business would expect their manager to run the business, but they would also make it a point to know something about it themselves so that they would be sure that the manager was making the most he could out of it. Therefore it is important that the trustees of a library should give more time to their work than is usually the case. They should be ready to make changes which will help their own library especially when changes are contemplated that will improve the work of libraries thruout the state, "To summarize the whole situation, if we want a better understanding of library work in the community; if we want more money for the library; if we want library laws, we must educate the public to library needs and the teachers must be not only the librarians, but the library trustees as well. A good librarian can do much alone, but she can do very much more with the interest, co-operation and advertising which a well informed Board of Directors can give her."

At this point Mr Prowse moved that it would be a good plan if each member of the Board of Trustees should belong to the association, and if the board could be induced to pay the association fees for staff members

who have been on the staff more than two years and that the new Executive board should send out letters to the boards of trustees embodying this suggestion. This motion was passed.

Miss Martha Wilson, librarian Lincoln library, then spoke on "Finding the librarian's place in education." She said in part that:

The library may claim a share in education in its broader definition, altho it serves as an accessory, rather than a teaching agency; its work being to stimulate, accompany and supplement definite, outlined instruction.

In carrying the public library idea over into the school itself, and making it a real educational factor, notable work has been done by individual librarians. Thru their work, leaders of modern education have accepted the library as an indispensable feature of the modern school, and have given it unqualified support. Within the library, the possibilities of doing real educational work with young people of school age are usually limited by restricted space. A special intermediate or high school room is more than desirable.

Educational effort does not stop with school work; the librarian is also concerned with the individual denied a college course who is seeking definite reading to take its place as far as it may or undertaking self education in any subject. Part time schooling in the factories calls for the librarian's interest and help, and in the re-educational work with wounded soldiers, the librarian has brought her wares to an appreciative market.

Adult education, particularly in the field of so-called Americanization is a work of very particular interest to the librarian, and one developed in many ways. The use of the library for citizenship and other classes, visits to the night schools, visits of night school classes to the library, home lands exhibits in the library are all a part, but perhaps the greatest factor is the establishment of friendly understanding and relations of value to the foreigner in learning the new language and incidentally in getting

adjusted to the new land, and of no less value to the librarian in enlargement of interest and sympathy.

The last paper of the morning was on The art of reading, by Mr Theodore W. Koch, librarian, Northwestern university. Mr Koch talked a few minutes on his experiences in buying books in Paris, Germany and England since the war and of the many difficulties he encountered (Printed on p 557).

The Wednesday afternoon session was devoted to the usual sectional meetings. The high school librarians' section was under the direction of Miss Rachel Baldwin, librarian of the Deerfield-Shields township high school library, Highland Park, Illinois. No formal papers were presented, all points being discussed in round table fashion.

Work with children.

The children's librarians held a most interesting session. Miss Adah F. Whitcomb of the Chicago public library, presided in the absence of Mrs Eva Cloud Taylor of Oak Park.

The first talk was by Miss Anne M. Boyd of the University of Illinois library school, on the subject "Multiplying the librarian's knowledge of children's books." Miss Boyd said that in spite of all the efforts of the libraries to bring children in the libraries, only about one-third of the children in any community are reached. We have overestimated the possibilities of direct library work with children. The ideals of this particular phase of library service have ever been so high that we have been carried away in our zeal and enthusiasm and as a consequence have probably failed to realize the ineffectiveness of our most earnest endeavors.

She advocated more indirect work with parents, teachers, clubs and others interested in any way in children's development.

Miss K. Irene Bowman spoke on "Helping children overcome bad reading habits." She narrated many personal experiences with children who wanted to read one kind of book only and in trying to counteract the effects of small libraries circulated outside the

library either by boys themselves or some organization which chose its books with more zeal than intelligence. Her most effective weapon in destroying bad habits seemed to be a very close personal relationship with the individual children both inside and outside the library.

A paper on "Some books I like and why I like them," was read by Miss Adah F. Whitcomb. Stress was laid on the fact that the best means of forming a good literary taste in children is by reading aloud to them the books which are so well written that they are difficult for them to read to themselves but which they are perfectly able to comprehend when read to them.

Trustees' Section

The annual meeting of the trustees' section of the Illinois library association was held in the New Leland hotel, Springfield, Wednesday afternoon, October 13, with an attendance estimated at 76.

Mrs F. P. Bowen (secretary of the board of directors, Savanna public library) served as secretary.

The meeting was called to order at 2:12 p. m. by the chairman, Clara S. Boyle (president of the board of directors, Glen Ellyn public library).

The chairman announced that the meeting would be conducted as a somewhat informal round-table.

Salaries

C. C. Douglas, trustee, Oak Park library, not answering to call, the chairman asked Mrs A. W. Errett, Jr., trustee, Dewanee library, to take up the topic of "Salaries," which she handled in a most satisfactory five-minute talk which brought out some of the questions that have confronted village and small town library boards of trustees and directors, especially during the last year.

"Budgets and salaries" were grouped and generally discussed. Discussion developed that the majority of the smaller libraries are paying from 40 to 62 per cent of income for salaries, while the larger libraries with large incomes can be somewhat liberal in the matter of salaries and not spend more than 25 per

cent of income for that purpose. Miss Ahern read some excerpts from the proof sheets of a measure that is now being drafted by the New York library association to go before the state legislature this winter (See p. 563).

Edw. Tweedell, Hinsdale; L. F. Gumbard of Macomb; the Freeport, Shelbyville, Decatur, Pekin and other trustees gave brief outlines of their budgets. Operating expenses have more than doubled since 1918; income is practically unaffected,—in fact, under the new law, effective July, 1919, with the tax rate reduced to one and one-third mills on the dollar on one-half assessed property valuation, many small libraries find their income is less, or shows no increase, over the former year. Public libraries, second only to public schools whose work they supplement and carry on as an educative agent, should have provision made by law for securing a more adequate operating income.

County library law

In the absence of Spencer Ewing, trustee of the Withers library, Bloomington, Mr Tweedell of Hinsdale read his paper on the county library bill.

Mr Ewing explained in detail the provisions of the county library bill which became effective July 1, 1919. It provides for two systems of county libraries in the state, to be established by the board of supervisors when the majority of voters at any election at which the question is properly presented, vote for the establishment of a county library system. The board may either appoint a county library board of five members to establish and maintain a county library system or the board of supervisors may contract, under specified conditions, with an existing library in the county "to establish, equip and maintain a public county library system." Under either system an annual tax not to exceed $1\frac{3}{4}$ mills on the dollar on the assessed property values shall be levied for a library fund. He suggested an amendment to the municipal library law which would either exempt the tax payers from the taxation for a county library or would

permit the trustees of the municipal library to sell and transfer their property to the county library system for the common use of both systems. Provision should be made for the absorption of the municipal library where a county system is inaugurated or, where this is not best, for separating the municipality from the jurisdiction of the county library.

Luther E. Robinson, trustee, Warren county library, Monmouth, had addressed the general conference Wednesday morning, outlining the plan of campaign followed in that county where the county library law will presently have its first try-out. Mr Robinson gave to this section a brief summary of the conditions in his county.

E. J. Verlie, secretary of the state legislative reference bureau, explained the new law and answered various questions in regard to it.

At the close of the discussion the following resolution, moved by L. F. Gumbard, trustee from Macomb, and seconded by Miss M. E. Ahern, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the trustees' section of the Illinois library association go on record as favoring the idea of a county library law, and trust that the association will cooperate in pushing this matter to a satisfactory issue.

The chairman pointed out the necessity for revisions of by-laws of libraries to agree with the arbitrary date of closing year, as covered by revised and amended state library law, effective from July, 1919. The status of Carnegie buildings and endowments, libraries partly endowed and partly operated by tax income, and other features that will have to be worked out in the establishment of a county library center were touched upon in the discussion. Miss Burlingame of Earlville, told how that village successfully changed its library from the village corporation to the township basis at last April's election. Miss Price, secretary, Illinois library extension commission, stated that taxes have been voted for the establishment of four new libraries. Two, township, Willow branch, Fiatt county, and Lawrence,

Lawrence county; Cicero in Cook county, and Wood River, Madison county.

The chairman read letters from State representative Lincoln Bancroft, Greenup, and State senator Clayton C. Pervier, Sheffield, expressing regret that they could not attend our meeting. Miss Price said that these legislators had sponsored the county library bill thru the state legislature. Both gentlemen offered their services in furthering additional library legislation should any be needed.

Certification of librarians

Miss M. E. Ahern, after a few words on the subject of Certification of librarians, advising that the American library association, and various states, are engaged in trying to work out plans that would prove equitable for all librarians, gave place to W. F. Hardy, president of the Decatur library board, who had to take a five o'clock train. There was no discussion nor action on the subject of certification.

Pensions for librarians

Mr Hardy talked on the need for legislation permitting library boards of trustees or directors to make provision for pensions for librarians, either from library funds, or thru state legislation in connection with other pension provisions. On motion of Mr Hardy, seconded by Mr L. E. Robinson of Monmouth, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the chair appoint a committee of three members, two trustees and the secretary of the state legislative reference bureau Mr E. J. Verlie, to act with the legislative committee of the Illinois library association in looking out for the interests of librarians in any pension legislation in the Illinois general assembly the coming session.

L. F. Gumbard of Macomb also spoke on the need for pensions for librarians. The chair appointed W. F. Hardy of Decatur and Mr Gumbard of Macomb as the two trustees to act with E. J. Verlie, secretary of the state legislative reference bureau on this pensions committee.

Illinois trustees' association

The chairman announced she had been

requested to ask for some action in regard to disposition of funds remaining in the hands of the secretary of a former association of trustees of Illinois libraries.

On motion of Mr Gumbard, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the trustees and directors of Illinois libraries in session assembled, October 13, 1920, at Springfield, Illinois, as a part of the Illinois library association—record themselves as in favor of meeting annually as the trustees' section of the Illinois library association, and as asking the secretary (Mr Hodgdon of Joliet) of the former Illinois trustees' association, to turn over to the treasurer of the Illinois library association, the funds now in his hands said to amount to approximately \$30.00, which funds were secured from membership dues to the Illinois trustees' association.

The Library and the Community High School

On Wednesday evening the first address was given by R. E. Hieronymus, community advisor of the University of Illinois. He said that the Illinois library association would find an interesting parallel in the development of the community high school thruout the state.

To Princeton, Buena county, belongs the honor of establishing the first township high school in Illinois. In 40 years about 75 such districts were formed, but the townships did not prove to be the logical unit for school purposes. The amended law of 1911 permitted a part of a township or more than a township to form a district for high school purposes. Then came the community high school law. It took a half century to see that it was wiser to find a suitable center for a high school and build the district around it than to accept arbitrary bounds and look for a center afterwards. When the proper unit was worked out, districts were rapidly formed. Over 200 were voted on favorably within one year after the new community high school law went into effect. It is already apparent that districts established upon a community basis, will become units for health work, farm and

home bureaus, recreation and various social activities.

The library interests should profit by this experience. A community high school is not a good thing, unless the community is a real center. These community school districts should become distributing centers of the county library. The county library with community distributing centers should come now with leaps and bounds.

The means is immediately at hand for the presentation of such plans directly to the people of the entire state thru the series of county "better community conferences," to be held in every county within two weeks following Thanksgiving.

Libraries and book sellers

The next number on the program was an address on "More books in the home," by Frederick G. Melcher, executive secretary National Association of Book Publishers. He said that the slogan "More books in the home" was amply justified by the need which the average home had for books, especially for children's books. There was no feeling on the part of the book stores that the library was a competitor, on the contrary, it was a well known fact that the best library community always has the best book store because the people of that community know and appreciate good books. The average community as a whole rarely takes the book seller seriously; they are too much inclined to think of him from a commercial point of view. The book exhibit held by many libraries has been excellent, but it has been hard to keep up the connecting link with the book store. The book store must supply the books exhibited in order to make the movement a success and the library should furnish always a list of books on exhibit to the local book store.

Mr Melcher then told of a model home exhibit in which he had established a model family library, but the most successful part of the exhibit had been a book-case built in the boy's room in which had been placed several dozen books. Every child who visited this

room was delighted with the books. He suggested that it would be more to the point to get boys to build bookcases and fill them with books than to build bird houses. For if they had the cases, the books would come. He then described the Children's Book Week, now in its second year. He said it was the result of complete coöperation between the publishers and the book sellers and that the memory of them is lasting. If the book seller decides to take a stand for good books, he must live up to it and the best thing is to make it fashionable to know something about children's reading. He had persuaded the Association of Book Sellers to put up money enough to engage a trained librarian, and the publishers had supplied money for posters and advertising, not to mention books. They plan to get articles on children's reading put into all the magazines. They were getting prominent authors to say interesting things about children's books and they were running short newspaper articles. He suggested that librarians make an effort to supply films suitable for children's week and to offer a prize in the school for the best book-case.

Dr Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the St. Louis public library, then gave a most interesting paper on "Some realists: English and American." As the paper may be published the author preferred that no extracts be given.

The Thursday morning session was called to order promptly at 9 o'clock by the president. Miss Lansden again led in the general singing, and as a very special treat Miss Lansden and Miss Ahern were prevailed on to sing one of the songs from the Post Conference trip.

Chicago library survey

Miss Laura Rich, of the Chicago public library, talked of the Chicago library club survey of Chicago libraries. This survey was conducted under the direction of Miss Mae Massee and the idea was to find out the exact standing of the library profession and the library conditions in Chicago. They found a very complex situation because there are so

many different kinds of libraries in the city with so many different methods of appointing their staffs. They inquired into salaries, questions of promotions, hours, various schedules of work, rest periods, sick leave, educational requirements, educational advantages, staff organizations. The compilations of the statistics will soon be published and will be available for purchase.

Our common task

Miss Bagley then presented Miss Alice Tyler, president of the American library association, who spoke on "Our common task." Miss Tyler said that while she appreciated the honor of appearing before the I. L. A. as the president of the A. L. A., she enjoyed still more the experience of being back in Illinois where she had formerly made her home. Now that the day of abnormal activities has ceased, the librarians are resuming their every day tasks, but with a new point of view.

They have returned committed to the common task of service. We all believe that the library is a real part in the great work of education and an important factor in the present readjustment, and we are committed to the task of making books easily and promptly accessible to all people no matter how specialized the library. If the library is a part of a local community the librarian must emphasize the local problems. The librarian who develops to the best degree the library in her own group has accomplished the greatest task in library work.

She then suggested a few things to consider at this time. There has never been such a demand for library workers as at the present and a systematic effort should be made for recruits in various communities. Salaries are simply symptoms of the financial condition of the library and we should study the financial resources back of the library and try to solve the question of putting libraries on a proper tax basis. Librarians must face the fact that tho library salaries are low, the work brings its own rewards and that young peo-

ple will readily respond to these ideas if they are presented to them. Librarians must be willing to be branded as idealists. The state association must work hard to make local conditions better; the A. L. A. is making every effort to develop library training and the proposed board of certification will probably accomplish much in strengthening service.

She urged that a great effort be made to increase the membership of all library associations and that we should arouse ourselves especially to building up the A. L. A. which is our great professional body.

The president then called for the report of the Auditing committee, C. V. Ritter, chairman. The report of the Resolutions committee was read by Mrs Fowler.

Resolutions

The members of the Illinois library association, in convention assembled, October 12-14, 1920, desire to express sincere appreciation of the cordial welcome and hospitality offered by the Chamber of Commerce and numerous citizens of Springfield and to the members of the local committee, including Dr A. R. Crook, director of state museum, Mr Ralph H. Wilkin, librarian of the supreme court library, Mr E. J. Verlie, secretary and Miss Kathleen Clyne, legislative reference bureau and the staffs of the state historical library, Lincoln library, Illinois library extension commission and the State library.

The music deserves special mention for it was sincerely appreciated; and we, for a second time, have enjoyed our morning song service and profited by the leadership of Miss Effie Lansden, of Cairo.

We wish to thank the various tradesmen who have aided us by their exhibits which are both interesting and helpful in our work.

Be it resolved that we record our appreciation of the work of the president and executive committee for their services in furnishing us with such an excellent program and the presence of the many notable speakers and the members of the American library association including the president, Miss Alice Tyler, of Cleveland, Ohio.

Be it resolved that we attempt to express the immeasurable loss we feel in the death of the following trustees and members:

Hon John W. Bunn, one of the board of directors of Lincoln library, serving most of the time from 1901, when appointed, to his death June 7, 1920, as a member of the Finance committee. His name was closely associated with every public or benevolent enterprise in Springfield, but to

no public enterprise was he more devoted than to the Lincoln library. A history of the library could not be written without devoting much space to recounting his efforts and achievements, and his substantial aid during strenuous periods in its existence.

Hon Clinton L. Conkling, a graduate of Yale university, a member of a law firm and one of the most prominent citizens of Springfield was selected trustee and vice-president of the board of Lincoln library in 1908; but in 1916 he was elected president, which office he held at the time of his death, October 12, 1920. Mr Conkling was a life-long resident of Springfield and has been identified with all its public interests. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln and it was he who carried the news to Mr Lincoln of his election to the presidency. His latest public work was that of delegate to the constitutional convention in session this year, but his failing health has hindered his regular attendance to his duties. As a counselor in matters both legal and administrative, his services have been invaluable in the development of the Lincoln library.

Henry C. Riemann, for 15 years librarian of the Lincoln library, passed away February 25, 1920. This association has suffered the loss of a counselor and friend as well as his trustees and staff members and the city of Springfield. His advice was given with sympathetic understanding, with tact and fairness; he was always gentle and considerate and his leadership was a powerful one. He was a lover of books and a lover of life. All who had the privilege of working with him will profit by his character and influence.

Miss Mary Hawley, graduate of the New York state library school, was a member of the New York state library staff. But for nearly 20 years, she was on the staff of John Crerar library, retiring in October, 1919, when she went to California, hoping to develop a project in which she had been interested for years. She died suddenly, early in the winter of 1919-20. She was a good student, interested in current affairs, active and courageous in her devotion to her principles and was, for many years, active in the Illinois library association.

Signed,

EVA MAY FOWLER,
CLARA S. BOYLE.

Miss May Massee talked a few minutes about the *Booklist*, asking the cooperation of all the librarians in the state.

Miss Jane Hubble read a report from the public document section of the A. L. A. which told of a questionnaire which is being sent to libraries all over the country inquiring as to the use made of pub-

lic documents. Miss Woodruff of the Chicago public library, is in charge of this work in Illinois and it was urged that all librarians answer these questionnaires promptly.

Legislative committee

The report of the legislative committee was read by Mr Windsor:

To the Illinois library association:

Your legislative committee offers for your consideration the following report:

(The report is somewhat condensed.)

Last winter our committee arranged for a hearing with the constitutional convention committee in which we urged that public libraries be recognized in the proposed new state constitution as a part of our educational system.

County library law. During the year three counties have voted on the establishment of a library under the provisions of our new county library law. Warren county won its election September 15. On the same day Jo Daviess county defeated the question and in November, 1919, Brown county lost its election by one vote. A number of other counties are considering the county library plan, and have offered the following criticisms of the present law:

First, the county library law forces all existing public libraries in the county to pay the county library tax and thus become a part of the county library system; no one city in the county can be exempted from the county library system.

This criticism we sympathize with but because of the uniform tax clause in our state constitution, it is impossible for us to propose a change in our law which will remove the criticism.

Second, Section two states that "the county board may if it is deemed advisable, contract in writing, with an existing library"....Some people think this should read "shall contract." Others believe it is best as it is and we do not recommend a change.

Third, Section seven leaves it optional with the county board to decide the amount of library tax to be levied, one and one-third mills being the maximum.

When the question came up in Warren county, the county attorney advised that the amount of levy was to be left to the county supervisors.

There is, however, one argument in favor of the provision as it stands, namely, the rate can be increased at any time without a special election.

These are the principal criticisms that have arisen to the law and amendments could be framed to correct two of them. Your committee has, however, decided no

to recommend an attempt to put thru the legislature any amendment this winter, in the belief that public opinion is not yet strong enough favoring any particular amendment. Moreover, to introduce any amendment, opens up the entire law for amendment, or for repealing, by any legislator and we might be worse off.

Certification of librarians

Your committee authorized the chairman to ask the legislative reference bureau to draft a bill providing for the certification of librarians. This has been done and the essential features of this bill are:

1. That the certification applies to all librarians in libraries supported by public funds;
2. That the certification shall be in the hands of the department of registration and education;
3. That there shall be four grades of certificates;
4. That it takes effect October 1, 1921;
5. That librarians holding positions July 1, 1921 shall be given certificates without examinations;
6. That the necessary amendments be made to the civil administration code and to the civil service laws for both city and state.

This bill is long and too full of details and many of the provisions would not work well and your committee does not recommend it.

Pensions. Many librarians would welcome a pension law. There is now a library pension law covering cities of over 100,000 which means only Chicago. The fund is created and maintained from amounts deducted monthly from the salaries of the employees and from gifts.

This law could be amended to include other cities than Chicago. The pension fund could be increased by an appropriation from the different public libraries. The only source for this money would be the yearly income of the library. There is scarcely a library that could afford to do this. The library appropriations are too small now to pay living wages and to meet the increase of other operating expenses. Even if some such scheme were attempted, sufficient money for a proper pension fund could not be raised this way.

Librarians are also included in the state institutions pension fund for teachers and employees; this law provides pensions for people working in our state institutions—except the University of Illinois.

However, the committee thinks it best not to formulate and introduce into the legislature this winter a library pension bill.

A commission appointed to investigate pension laws in Illinois has been in existence for four years and has made two reports. The last report was published too late to be very helpful to the last legislature.

It is believed that the next general assembly will try to discover some workable pension system. It may be desirous to

combine all pensions into one act. If such is the case librarians should be included, if possible. At the present time it would be of little use to try to outline a library pension act without state aid and it would be very difficult indeed to pass such an act until the legislature has decided what shall be done with the pension laws now on the statutes.

Your committee makes, in conclusion, the following recommendations:

1. That a legislative committee be appointed for the ensuing year, of five members and that that committee be authorized to appoint sub-committees from among trustees or librarians, or other citizens, to work with the committee and the executive board on special questions.

2. That the committee be asked to continue its consideration of certification, to introduce a bill into the legislature this winter if both the committee and the executive board of the I. L. A. approve the provisions of the bill.

3. That the committee be asked to continue its consideration of pensions for librarians and be ready this winter to take advantage of any favorable opening in the legislature to include librarians in a general state-wide civil pension scheme.

4. That the committee be asked to consider any library legislation that may be presented to it by librarians or trustees or that may be introduced into the legislature by any interest; and if any such proposed bill meets with the approval of both the legislative committee and of the executive board, it may be supported formally.

ANNA M. PRICE, Chairman.

CARL B. RODEN.

P. L. WINDSOR.

LUCY WILSON ERRETT.

MARY J. BOOTH.

It was moved that the report of the legislative committee be received and each provision be acted upon separately. Miss Ahern said she did not believe the library situation was such that it was possible to pass on legislation concerning certification. She thought it was unwise to enter into legislation on a subject which was still so much in the air, and it might be wiser to be the last to pass on such a measure than the first. Mrs. Fowler objected to certification being placed in the present department of the registration and education because of the varied nature of the organizations under that bureau. Mr. Rodin said that the bill as drawn up in its present form was obnoxious and would not be supported, that the committee's idea was not to in-

troduce such a bill, but to be ready to handle any situation that should arise in the next legislature. Mr Stockard, a trustee, urged that certification would soon come to mean what the certification of teachers had meant and would make better material available at better salaries. After further discussion all the recommendations of the legislative committees report passed.

Mr Rodin then moved that the association rise to thank the president for a very successful and delightful meeting.

The report of the nominating committee was then presented by Miss Wright. The following officers for the coming year were elected: Effie A. Lansden, president; first vice-president, E. J. Verlie; second vice-president, Anna Hoover; secretary, Josie B. Houchens; treasurer, Katherine Abbott.

Miss Bagley then asked Miss Lansden to come to the platform and take over her duties. Miss Lansden asked the co-operation of all members for the coming year and then called for a motion to adjourn.

Exhibits

While no special effort was made to make exhibits a feature of the meeting, there were several very good displays. C. V. Ritter of Chicago, and the New Process Bindery of Jacksonville had exhibits. There was a collection of books on Lincoln and the State Library Extension commission displayed a number of the interesting books they have in their library.

Social events

The social features of the meeting were very delightful and exceedingly well planned and everything was done that time would permit for the entertainment of the visitors. An automobile ride thru the beautiful parks of Springfield with actually enough machines for everyone that wanted to go; trips to the State House, the Lincoln memorials, the libraries; the reception Tuesday evening; the community singing with which each meeting was opened, all united to make the memory of the Springfield meeting a very pleasant one.

JOSIE B. HOUCHENS, Secretary.

Pacific Northwest Library Association

The eleventh annual conference of the Pacific Northwest library association was held in Portland, Oregon, on September 2-4. The keynote of the meeting was the socialization of library work; emphasis was laid on community study and the relation of the book to human needs even before the library constituents can formulate their requirements and localize their attainment in the public library—the far-sighted as contrasted with the near-sighted librarian. The meetings were also unique in that they began promptly, were conducted with dispatch, and ended on time. No one can estimate how much of the success of the meeting was due to the happy and contented psychology induced by this attention to what is often a most irritating feature of library programs.

Dr Jonah B. Wise, trustee of the Library association of Portland, welcomed the librarians to the city and to the library, which was the headquarters for the conference. He spoke with fine feeling of the sense of loss felt by the entire association in the absence of Miss Isom from this, the first conference since her death. He paid tribute, as did many of the speakers explicitly and all of them implicitly to the worth of her work for her library and her profession and to the inspiration of her example.

Dr Wise spoke of the public library as coming into its own in the field of public appreciation—if not as yet expressed adequately in financial terms yet strongly entrenched in the community's sympathy. The library is a public utility to which the public is looking for results and about whose problems of administration and detail routine they neither know nor care to know very much. To achieve results which the community can sense the librarian must increasingly ally herself with community problems and understand public questions. As an illustration he spoke of Americanization work and the problem of foreign languages. The librarian's function grows increasingly a selective task with consequent increasing power as a determining factor in literary taste and in the literary preservation of

opinion and ideals. The librarian is becoming a professional worker with a standard of professional ideals, among which are special training, a life-time of effort, and a definitely established place in community life.

In his response for the association, Mr John Ridington, librarian of the University of British Columbia, paid a tribute to the Board of the Portland Library association as a group of fellow workers with librarians, actively interested in librarianship, and altho "that hateful thing, a close corporation, a self-perpetuating body...confessedly an aristocracy, it is an aristocracy of sympathetic intelligence...triumphantly justified on every count, issue and standard that the most radical democracy could assert or desire." He spoke of the Portland library as one of the best in North America, "an institution that comes near the ideal of being a real community centre, one that for years has paid high dividends for civic expenditures in civic education and civic inspiration."

Charles Wesley Smith, associate librarian of the University of Washington, gave the president's address, "The library as a teaching institution." He spoke of the necessity, since the upheaval of the war, for re-evaluating our library ideals; for centering our thoughts no longer in the details of our work but upon the fundamental problems of what we are and why; for seeking out our own peculiar niche among the world's serviceable institutions and for unifying our efforts for results. He urged upon our attention the fact that the library is really an educational institution in its own right and not merely an adjunct to the schools as would seem to be indicated by the respective per capita support annually given schools and libraries—\$10 and 16 cents. The library educates by supplying information, stimulating thinking (as contrasted with propaganda) and furnishing motives. Librarians must take up the responsibilities of educators in a world where superficiality, irresponsibility and provincialism are rampant and spiritualize the making of world history by assisting in the substitution of worthy for low ideals.

Committee Reports

Herbert Killam, chairman of the committee on libraries in Alaska and the Yukon reported that Dawson, the capital of Yukon, has a Carnegie building with a library supported by the Territorial council which also gives annual grants to a number of reading rooms in the territory. The school ordinance states that school trustees are "to provide a suitable library for the school and to make regulations for its management" and "to select and provide from the list authorized by the Commission all such reference books for the use of pupils and teachers as are required for the proper instruction of the pupils."

Kate M. Firmin, for the Membership Extension committee, reported 103 new memberships for the year—57 from the larger libraries, 17 from the smaller, 36 from college libraries and one each from normal, state and business libraries. Every librarian in the six states and provinces was invited to join the P. N. L. A. either by letter or in a personal interview, resulting in a total membership of 280 out of a roughly estimated possible 475.

E. Ruth Rockwood reported for the Pacific Northwest Bibliography committee the preparation of the new edition of the check list in which 15 libraries in the Northwest are coöperating. The work is to be published by the H. W. Wilson Company and copy is expected to be ready by October 1. "It has seemed best to include some of the U. S. documents which have great historical interest and cannot easily be found except in Poore or in Miss Judson's index. Fewer analyses of long sets will be made, ... long sets of directories, serials, etc., are to be treated as series. ... Not so many city and state documents are to be included, as they may naturally be expected to be found in the cities or states issuing them." The *Boston Transcript* said recently of the 1919 edition "That work still remains the most substantial bibliography of its kind."

Mr Ridington in reporting for the Publicity committee called attention to the pioneer work done in this line by the P. N. L. A. under Mr Charles H. Comp-

ton's initiative. Since the A. L. A. has now taken up the matter of general library publicity the committee felt that their work should be limited to immediate advertisement of conference activities. An album of clippings of the complete newspaper record of the last conference was prepared and sent on tour thruout the membership of the association, and a similar album is in preparation for this conference.

Judson T. Jennings reported for the Special committee on Salaries, March, 1920, and spoke of the difficulties in attempting to generalize on the basis of the facts obtained and tabulated. He felt that specific recommendations were of little value as the problem is partly an individual community one, but he advocated a wide and intelligent distribution of the facts of the salary situation.

The Committee on School libraries, Mildred Pope, chairman, reported the preparation of a digest from the N. E. A. Report on "Standard library organization and equipment for secondary schools." This report was adopted last year by the P. N. L. A. but the committee felt that the long report was in danger of being overlooked by the smaller schools (about 250) with an enrollment of between 500 and 75 students. Copies of the mimeographed digest with a letter urging the consideration of the report are to be sent to these schools early in October after they have had time to organize.

Miss Rockwood read the report of the Subscription book committee, Mrs Gertrude Hess, chairman. The "*Cumulated Bulletin, 1917-1920*" has been prepared and sent to members of the association. This *Bulletin* contains information concerning subscription books inspected by the committee with the view of protecting small communities against the book agent with mediocre work. The committee recommended that the work be taken over and carried on by a state commission or by some one in close touch with the small libraries of the territory. The *A. L. A. Booklist* has been put on the mailing list for regular issues of the bulletin.

A feature of the conference was the

meeting for trustees which Mr T. C. Elliott, chairman, called upon all members of library boards to attend on Friday evening. This was a session exclusively for trustees in which it was hoped that the exclusiveness of the occasion would induce absolute frankness and latitude for discussion of administrative problems.

Cornelia Marvin, chairman of the War Records committee, stated that the work had so far been that of gathering information—no constructive work had been attempted. The records to be collected fall into three groups: individual, activity, and community records. The Historical societies and the Red Cross are doing more with the individual records than libraries are. Miss Marvin recommended that all local and county records be kept at the several libraries; these records to provide material for non-commercial state and county war histories; that libraries collect especially unit histories and diaries; that libraries help with plans for war memorials so that money may not be wasted nor good taste outraged.

After the reports of committees a series of three minute reports were given on library progress in the Northwest.

Regional and county libraries

Helen G. Stewart, librarian of the Public library, Victoria, B. C., spoke of the situation in British Columbia as largely a problem of organization. British Columbia has no counties, and (except the province) no single taxing unit other than local units. Hence they have established a library system in the provinces based on the county library plan. The coöperative idea being popular the libraries are working out a joint stock corporation plan, a sort of coöperative library society with service radiating from the library center to the surrounding districts. The difficulty of distribution of service to branches hinges on the question whether the small branch shall pay only for service received or whether shall it take out shares. Victoria has five branches working on the coöperative plan, each contributing a definite amount and receiving a definite amount of serv-

ice along lines of the county library system. Some idea of the gigantic task before the British Columbia libraries may be gained from the statement that this huge province has two fair sized libraries and two "not fair sized libraries" to minister to a population so sparsely distributed that the average is one person to a square mile. A series of lectures is being given on the use of books in normal school libraries, and the library is busily getting into touch with teachers' federations with which it hopes to affiliate locally, and to secure joint committees of librarians and teachers for preparing book lists for high schools—and reaching out to other coöperative organizations. The problem of coöperating with districts in which there is yet no established library to coöperate with, is solved by the Amended legislative library act enabling the state library to lend to beginning libraries small collections of books which are changed occasionally. Mr Killam who is organizing thruout the country has more requests than he can handle. Miss Stewart said that it is machinery that is lacking—the reading habit is already strongly developed in these old country people. They are not essentially the pioneer type that has little interest in books. To spread abroad an intelligent understanding of what modern libraries are trying to do, free lectures on librarianship as a profession—not on the technique of the subject—are being given to university graduates.

Belle Sweet, librarian of University of Idaho, spoke of the outlook in Idaho as good. Salaries have been raised and a library association formed five years ago, has been working for a county library law which they hope to see passed in January. The libraries are few, small and scattered.

Lucia Haley of the University of Montana library, reported on What's doing in Montana. Good crops after a three years' drought bring hopes of support of bond and tax measures, in the coming November elections, which will provide for much needed expansion of library service and building programs. The library training course in the State

university also hinges on the elections. There is no library commission in the state. Such work as has been done is largely due to the personal efforts of the librarian of the State university with coöperation from the state and county school superintendents. Package library service has been conducted also by the State university "with no appropriation, no books and no assistants." There are several flourishing city libraries but future development will probably be along county library lines. There is a county library law, under which six libraries have been established since 1915, four of them in permanent buildings. Miss Haley spoke of the need for a standard new type of library building suited to county library work in a thinly settled country, as the Carnegie corporation does not look with favor on plans calling for large packing and distributing space, rest rooms for women, and children's rooms, to accommodate the farm women who come in on Saturdays.

Joanna Sprague, librarian of Salt Lake City library, sent "News from Utah," which was presented by Mr Hitt.

Special developments

The second session opened with a series of five minute talks on interesting developments in library service tried out in various libraries.

"Experiences with a book wagon" were given by Anne M. Mulheron, school librarian of the Portland library. This Parnassus on wheels venture started from the idea of taking books to the children in the country whose book supply was cut off with the lapsing of school library service during vacation time. They began with the more thickly populated sections, and carried a few books for the fathers and mothers. Miss Mulheron had many incidents to tell, full of "heart interest" and she enthusiastically believes in the great value of personal work with the adults as well as with the children in these districts—this carrying of the gospel of books to the mentally and physically isolated.

"The libraries and movies" by Nellie M. Fisher, branch librarian of Portland,

called attention to a possible further extension of library service in establishing film libraries for circulation to clubs, schools, churches, and even to motion picture theatres that would demand the better type of films. These libraries by insuring the life of good films would attract capital to their production instead of largely to the sensational and spectacular dramas which will pay for themselves in six months. Such recognition of the photo-drama as an art would attract better writers to its service. The motion picture is a new language, it is capable of preservation (in slow burning or perhaps even non-combustible films) and it reaches millions of people whom the printed book has never reached and probably never will reach. Miss Fisher called attention to an article on this subject in the *Survey* (1916) by John Collier, and called upon librarians to recognize the possibilities of service and valuable education along this line.

Mrs Viola Price Franklin, librarian of the Public library, Albany, Oregon, read a paper on "Making the public know the library." She spoke of the enlarged sphere of the library since it has welcomed the wider vision of usefulness given by the A. L. A. war work. Nothing is too large now to attempt in carrying out our program of getting books to the people. The first step in making the public know the library is for the librarian to know her public. Results come from study of community life and activities, cordial personal interest expressed over the desk, coöperation with the problems and purposes of the home, the school, local industries, chambers of commerce, women's clubs, etc.; and the use of publicity and the press in presenting to the community the possibilities of library service.

A paper on Music and the library was read by Miss Eva Blood of the Portland staff. Here again a popular note of the conference was struck—the educational service of the library in lifting our average jazz-mad citizen out of the complacent state of Bottom when he said "I have a reasonable good ear for music—let's have the tongs and bones." She

gave an account of the organization of Portland's music department with its some 3,000 volumes, musical scores for 18 different instruments, librettos, magazines, and musical literature and biography, selected with the assistance of a special music committee made up of local musicians and educators; and its hope of sound proof rooms for recitals, lectures, etc. Is it worth while and does it reach? The following story perhaps tells the tale: "One day an Italian boot-black asked for the opera *Cavalleria Rusticana*. 'Do you sing?' inquired the assistant. 'No,' he answered, 'but I can read music, so I whistle it.'"

Ethel R. Sawyer, director of the Training class of the Portland library, told of a delightful six months' experience in extending library book service by means of classes for the discussion of drama and fiction, and talks on various groups of books. She called upon librarians to take advantage of this great educational field awaiting their attention. "We have for a long time talked about guiding people to the books that are for them and we are doing it by individual service in our open shelf rooms, but here is a chance to reach numbers of people at once and to rouse in them an initial interest in certain good books, and to introduce busy people to a few good things out of the appalling mass of books printed."

Mrs Alice W. Jones, president of the Portland library guild, described the organization of this new venture in library democracy. It is an effort to secure the benefits of union, without the evils of unionization, and to preserve the professional and craft ideals of the guild idea. She spoke of the 60 members with an average of five years of library experience apiece bringing the total library experience of 300 years to bear on any problem.

School library problems

The remainder of the session was devoted to a discussion of school library problems. In the absence of Miss Pope, the president conducted the discussion.

Mr J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of public instruction in Oregon, was

to have spoken on School library standards from the point of view of a school superintendent, but was unable to attend the conference.

Nell A. Unger, librarian, Lincoln high school, Seattle, Washington, read a paper on "The high school library from a public librarian's point of view." She spoke of the disappointment often felt in transferring from public library service to the atmosphere of the school-room, with its too frequent attention to minute detail and repetition rather than to big ideas and world outlooks, the almost exclusive occupation with immature minds which must be all too often compelled to come in and seek wisdom and who seize on the least excuse to evade knowledge. The compensations, however, loom large to the lover of that queer, awkward, violent, delightful age, "the teens," when she grasps her infinite possibilities for personal service in helping these plastic lives to form themselves along fine, noble, lines.

Flora M. Case, librarian of Salem public library, led the discussion. She dwelt on the need for close coöperation between public and school libraries. The school libraries should be training fields for the public library; give the pupils the library attitude; teach them how to use a library independently and intelligently. The school library is also the place where the pupil should learn to appreciate good literature—busy public libraries have so little time for the personal touch—cannot discuss books with the children. The Salem grade schools have organized an appreciation of literature department in which a teacher-librarian meets with the pupils at stated intervals for book reviews, discussion, dramatic presentation, etc. Miss Case suggested an informal reading room in each high school. The idea should be encouraged that the library is not only a powerhouse but a place for the enjoyment of literature. She brought up the question whether the supervised study idea conducted to departmental libraries—which is not good library practice.

Miss Mulheron spoke of the difficulty of the departmental library problem.

Mr Henry emphatically favored discouraging the disintegration of college and university libraries into numerous small collections of departmental libraries. Teachers so often do not know how to use the books when they get them. The teachers' hobby of library disintegration usually accomplishes little but the disintegration of the librarian.

"The school library as a part of the county system" was presented by Constance Ewing, assistant school-librarian, Library association of Portland. She gave a summary of the Oregon state school law, and emphasized the need for librarians to guide and instruct teachers in the choice and use of books. The system worked out by the Portland library includes semi-annual visits to schools, exhibits, issuing of reading certificates to pupils for outside reading, normal classes in children's literature, and coöperation with work of the county school superintendent.

Discussion was led by Annabel Porter, children's librarian, Tacoma. She propounded the following very pertinent questions:

1. Should the county librarian's point of contact in school work be with the teachers or with the children? Should the comparatively few librarians concentrate on giving to teachers a better knowledge of children's books, etc. and let them do the work with the children?

2. Could a plan be worked out like the county institutes for giving courses in children's literature, story-telling, etc., to teachers in rural schools—given either by county librarians or by a state-employed children's librarian, to be sent from county to county?

Mr Henry thought this plan could be carried out thru the county institutes if the superintendents could be persuaded that library work is part of school work.

Mr Ridington said the chief requirement for such a program would be to find the competent person.

3. In sending collections of books to rural schools, which should we try to satisfy first, the school demand for supplementary readers or the children's need for recreational and cultural reading?

Miss Kostomlatsky said that supplementary readers should be furnished by the school board.

Miss Mulheron maintained that librarians cannot inculcate the love of reading by means of supplementary texts.

Mr Hitt suggested that to get the co-operation of the teachers we must help them immediately and they need supplementary readers.

Miss Kostomlatsky replied that the true teacher had both points of view and appreciated the need of recreational and cultural reading quite as fully as the other.

Mr Ridington denied that the teacher preferred supplementary readers.

Mr Henry believed that the teacher must be helped to get the librarian's standpoint on this matter.

Miss Fox called attention to the experiment in classes for teachers on children's literature given by Miss Harriet Wood, former head of the Portland school department. The worth of this course was unquestioned and drew much appreciative comment from the teachers themselves.

4. Should each rural school have its own collection of reference books?

Mr Ridington said that every school should have its own reference collection, larger or smaller, as the case might be. This collection should be a laboratory to teach the use of books and libraries. This can only be done thru the personal influence of the teacher who knows and loves books, not by reading books about how to love and know books.

Miss Porter said she planned to place in the hands of every Tacoma teacher the graded course of lessons by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction on the use of the library. She also provides teachers with copies of the pictures prescribed for study in each grade.

5. Should not courses in school library law be included in normal school library courses and in teacher training classes?

Miss Cowing asked whether children were given any school credit for outside reading? Miss Ewing replied no, that it was part of their English work. Miss Cowing stated that this record was added to the report card in the Seattle public schools but no extra credit was given for such reading.

Third Session

The third session was called to order at 8:07 p. m. The first part of the third session program was a Book review symposium led by Zulema Kostomlatsky, acting librarian, Library association of Portland. She spoke of "the young invaders" Daisy Ashford, Opal Whitely, Horace Wade and Hilda Conkling, with a reminiscent glance at "the immortal child" Marjorie Fleming; and touched on their value as revelations of the psychology of infancy and childhood. If such talents could be developed, fed on the restricted and diluted reading of modern children what might we not expect from a greater breadth in children's reading? The average children's reading is for only average intelligence. Miss Kostomlatsky quoted from Rockwell Kent's "Wilderness" and made a plea for more browsing for our children so that they may get a broader outlook on life, and develop greater originality of thought. She surmised that the rut into which children's librarians so often find themselves sinking professionally and mentally may be due partly to a surfeit of this artificially diluted children's literature and may furnish one reason for the present deficit in the supply of children's librarians.

The following books were discussed:

Lindsay—Chinese nightingale—By Winifred Washburn, Seattle public library.

Dewey—Letters from China and Japan—Mary A. Batterson, Tacoma public library.

O'Neal—Beyond the horizon—Lotta Fleek, Library association of Portland.

Johnstone—The gay Dombeys—Mabel Ashley, Everett public library.

Charnwood—Abraham Lincoln—Eleanor Statter, Library association of Portland.

The address of the evening was given by Dr Richard F. Scholz, professor of history, University of Washington, on The forming of public opinion.

Dr Scholz places the library among the three chief agencies in the forming of modern public opinion—along with the press, and the moving pictures. He points out the almost absolute power of public opinion in determining public action and public judgment and emphasized the

great peril which lies in the purely commercial basis underlying the policy of the press and the moving pictures. Partisan propaganda, half truths, unreliable authorities, appeals to sensationalism or passions, keep the public mind in such a state of muddlement that public opinion stands a chance of being ignorant, prejudiced, and emotionally violent. It is the great work of the public library to help the community to all the facts without fear or favor so that an enlightened, sane, controlled public opinion may emerge—without which democracy is doomed to absolute failure as a functioning of human institutions.

Fourth session

The fourth session opened with a valuable paper by Milton J. Ferguson, state librarian of California, on "The trend toward county libraries." He deplored librarians' Chinese ancestor-worship of old precedents and their obtuseness to new ideas, especially the idea of consolidation as a solvent for the problems of the small library, and for the extension of library service generally. He sketched the steps by which California evolved her county library system under which 42 county libraries are now operating a series of about 3300 branches. That the trend of library organization is toward the county library idea is evidenced by the fact that 22 states have already adopted some form of county service, and that even England in 1919 by act of Parliament laid the foundation for county library service.

Mr Ridington asked whether the county idea could be adapted to the fluctuating and changing boundaries of provinces as in British Columbia.

Mr Ferguson replied that the only need was for a fixed taxable unit. He warned against putting thru legislative acts which would automatically establish libraries in every county. He insisted that the library must come only at the desire of the residents of the county.

"Our place in the sun, and other platitudes," was set forth by Sarah V. Lewis, superintendent of circulation, Seattle public library. Miss Lewis called upon us to stop dealing in self adulatory pre-

sumptions about our influence in the community and the value of our service and to face the facts of our failure to reach more than a quarter of our possible constituency and our disappointing shortcomings in getting the right book to the needy person speedily—and she forced us so determinedly into the task of sorting out our old dust-bins of platitudes that we were aghast at the rubbish and yet the charm and optimistic good nature with which the matter was presented betrayed us into genuine enjoyment of our penance.

Miss Cowing suggested the game of handing in lists of those things which we had actually read during the year, and asked whether as a fact librarians read so much better things than do our publics.

Miss Kostomlatsky told of her experience in a small town on a holiday when the library was closed, as an indication of popular interest in libraries. Out of twelve people of various types whom she asked to direct her to the library only one could help her and he said it was "opposite the Presbyterian church."

After speaking of the new library realization that libraries are only one factor in the distribution of books to the people, the president introduced Gertrude Andrus, formerly head of children's work of Seattle public library, now manager of the Boys and Girls bookshop of Frederick & Nelson's department store, Seattle. Miss Andrus correlated "Education and the cash register." She said that her brief experience with the cash register had educated her to a saner, less pretentious opinion of the sacerdotal offices of librarianship. Business methods and bigness of vision with knowledge of stock, and intelligent ideals diplomatically insinuated into pure commercialism will result in a harmonious mating of education and the cash register.

Miss Howe told of her experience in trying to buy inferior books at the stores in Seattle. For most of the librarian's old abhorrences, there had been no demand for a year; she found they were relegated to the second hand stores. Former readers of these books were reading the magazines and popular war books.

Referring to the demand for the "Motor boys," etc., Miss Andrus replied that she did not carry them now. At first she did have them, but later her department furnished the management with an example of a paying book-shop which refused to carry those books. Miss Cooley, head of the book department of Meier and Frank, Portland, reports no sale of Elsie books through the book-stores, tho there is still a demand. She says these books are obtained thru mail order houses. She called for more coöperation between librarians and book-sellers, and asserted that the library *does* influence the book-store. The store will trust its book-buyer and will buy only where there is an outlet, but the book-buyer and book-seller are relying more and more on the opinion of librarians. She expressed the belief that people *do* know about the library and cited 5,000 children who came to her department to see the "humane books" as a result of the library's celebration of Humane week. She suggested two weeks practical experience in commercial selling as part of every library school course.

Miss Andrus cited the Seattle list of books for Christmas buying at \$1 or less, but agreed that "there ain't no such animal" as an inexpensive book now. Some people won't pay more than 50 cents for a book—"it isn't worth more to them." But book-sellers *can* get some comparatively inexpensive good books, and she suggested their making a Christmas feature of these books.

"Echoes from Colorado Springs" were brought by Cornelia Marvin, state librarian of Oregon. She commended the renewed spirit of coöperation evinced there and noted the emphasis put upon studying the reactions between books and people, and the proper importance given to the small library's problems. She reported splendid progress in library training plans; noted Minnesota's new county unit law; praised the library assistants' program, but disagreed with the discussions of library law which disregarded the budget system and other new ideas of good government. She agreed with Mr Ferguson that the library should not be "put over" on a community but should

be a growth. She also called attention to the paper of Mr Hicks of Columbia on the neglect of legal literature and the importance of getting legal periodicals indexed.

A report on the Enlarged Program of the A. L. A. prepared by John B. Kaiser, showed the results of the financial campaigns undertaken in the several states of the Northwest, together with plans for future work.

The afternoon was devoted to a survey of the Portland library system including trips to the various types of branch libraries.

County libraries

The second evening session was devoted to the problems of county libraries. Mary A. Nichols, librarian, Public library, La Grande, Oregon, presented a paper on the need for a county library. Again the note of coöperation was sounded in which local pride, jealousy, and individual authority may be merged in community interest. The library's failure to win popular appreciation is due in large measure to those hundreds of libraries too small to give efficient service and which are to many people the sole standard of what a library can do. Trained workers, competent book selection, service to the schools, book wagons for isolated districts, and personal service for every man, woman, and child in a county costs money and local taxing units are too small to furnish adequate amounts.

Clara Van Sant, librarian, Jackson County library, Medford, Oregon, read a very complete and practical paper on Planning a county library campaign, based on actual experience. Putting thru a library campaign is like planning an advertising and selling campaign in a mercantile business. It must convince the public of the value of its service and must arouse enthusiasm to the pitch of paying for such service by increased taxes.

The county library situation in Washington was presented by Ellen F. Howe, University of Washington library, Seattle. She showed conclusively the need

for a permissive county library law in Washington, which state alone in the extreme West stands against this progressive idea. The inadequacy of state service and of travelling libraries was made apparent and a very valuable outline of the Washington situation was appended, furnishing an analysis of state library affairs by counties and indicating expressed sentiment in the county in regard to a law permitting the establishment of county libraries.

Miss Marvin spoke of the Oregon library law as working satisfactorily. Only 9 of the 35 counties have taken advantage of it, but finances do not warrant pushing the matter. In the meantime travelling libraries are useful as a makeshift. She called attention to some possible dangers in the county library plan—namely, that the country may suffer a disadvantage in comparison to the city libraries unless adequate service can be guaranteed the country people. Such a guarantee should be worked out. Also it is very difficult to get a county library unless there is a good library and a competent librarian already within the county. How can we persuade people that a county library is a good thing when the only library they ever saw is a bad one? Oregon is working on its backward counties by whetting their library appetites, by putting into these places a fine librarian who will give them such a wonderful library service that they can't bear to lose it. Then they will work for a permanent county library.

Mr Henry spoke of the mistaken idea that traveling libraries can do all the work of county libraries. The great difference is that no librarian goes with the library—no personal service behind the books. The traveling library, while useful for some time in a state, is worthless as a solvent for the library situation. He commended Jackson county's idea of an individual campaign among tax-payers showing how little each one individually would have to pay—otherwise each man feels he is paying the whole amount of the tax levy.

Miss Marvin added that traveling libraries should train people for county li-

braries. She also pointed out that the opponents of a county law usually try to create the impression that passage of this law with its increased costs would hold up every other good thing contemplated in the budget. Show the voters just how many feet of hard surface road the library tax would lay, and ask them to decide between these few feet and the contemplated library service. Such a campaign sheet is to be used in Oregon.

Final session

At the final session of the conference on Saturday morning, President Smith summed up the keynote of the meeting as a change of attitude from mere enthusiasm for our work to an attempt to develop "morale" i. e. staying power.

After various business matters had been disposed of an open forum was announced for free discussion and expression of ideas.

Library assistants

Mr Henry brought up the problem of how to get candidates for library work and how to keep librarians after we get them. He mentioned as two of the sources of dissatisfaction with library work, the still inadequate salaries, and the working conditions of the assistants. He pointed out that night work, overtime and irregular schedules were unhealthy, discouraging and biologically wrong, and he maintained that library staffs will be limited in quality and quantity until better working and social conditions are devised. He broached the possibility of closing libraries at night as stores have been closed.

Miss Fox cited living conditions, irregular hours and responsibility as the chief stumbling blocks in filling branch positions. These drawbacks need recognition in a better salary scale for branch workers. Evening work is a very difficult problem.

Miss Kostomlatsky contended that library service is utterly unlike store service. Somebody else can buy supplies, but no one else can get a young man's education for him. The library is the great continuation school rather than a store of supplies. She spoke of the improv-

ing library school situation, and cited the large number of replies to a recent newspaper advertisement for library pages. One hundred local replies were received within a week and 20 letters from the state. A large number of these young women were really interested in knowing about library work as a profession. Such facts point to the possibility of much good material to be obtained by a publicity campaign.

Miss Helen T. Kennedy, principal of branches department, Los Angeles public library, brought greetings from California and in particular from Los Angeles. She urged a combined meeting of all librarians west of the Rockies for some near future date somewhere on the Pacific Coast.

Mr Ridington presented the suggestion that on alternate years the Pacific Northwest library association, the California library association and the Utah library association hold a joint conference when the A. L. A. meets in the extreme East. Such a joint meeting would promote closer relations between adjacent western associations.

At Mr Hitt's suggestion it was moved that a committee of 3 be appointed to take up this matter of joint meetings, plan a program, and report at the next meeting of the association.

The nominating committee brought in the following list of officers for the coming year:

President, Helen G. Stewart, librarian, public library, Victoria, B. C.; first vice-president, Ethel R. Sawyer, director of training class, Library Association of Portland; second vice-president, Elizabeth R. Powell, librarian, public library, Missoula, Montana; secretary, Gladys Smith, assistant librarian, public library, Spokane, Wash.; treasurer, Elena A. Clancey, head of order department, public library, Tacoma, Wash.

Bay Path Library club—The autumn meeting of the Bay Path library club was held in the Public library, Leominster, November 4, 1920. Mr Hamilton Mayo, chairman of the board of trustees, gave the club a very cordial wel-

come to Leominster and also suggested as a subject for consideration at some future meeting, "Keeping watch of the immigrant." The secretary's report was read and accepted.

The first number on the program, "Roll call on the books of the year," was conducted by Miss Edith M. Gates of the Worcester public library, and much helpful information was given.

Following the roll call on books, Miss Emily Haynes of the Worcester Polytechnic institute, conducted a "Question Box" along technical lines relating to library methods, supplies, etc. The discussion of the questions was quite informal and a very enjoyable hour was passed in this way.

At 2 p. m. Mr Herbert W. Fison of the Malden public library, explained to the club his scheme for the inexpensive binding of periodicals. There was much interest exhibited in Mr Fison's remarks and some of the librarians declared their intention of trying the plan as outlined by him. The matter of the cooperative buying of binding materials was also touched upon with the idea that better service and cheaper rates might thus be obtained. (See also p. 598.)

Miss Wheeler of the Leominster public library, described briefly the "School for voters" conducted in her library just previous to the November election, for the purpose of familiarizing new voters (women more especially) with the method of procedure in casting a ballot.

A vote of thanks was given Mr Fison for his interesting and practical talk, and also Miss Wheeler for the hospitality of the day. The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

MABEL E. KNOWLTON,
Secretary.

Kansas.—The nineteenth annual meeting of the Kansas Library Association was held at Salina October 25-27. About seventy librarians and trustees enjoyed the hospitality of Salina and her public and university libraries. The two days were packed with inspiration, practical helps and fun and the program offered much material good to those present.

Greetings and welcome were extended by Frank Hageman, president of the Salina public library board, to which Julius Lucht, president of the association, responded.

Mr Wiest, college professor, minister and library trustee, gave a delightful "book talk" on Sir Walter Scott and his contribution to literature.

Many usable ideas for library publicity and directions from a newspaper man's point of view for putting them into practice were contributed by C. M. Harger, journalist and library trustee.

A short library farce, "References Required," written by Mrs May Bellville Brown, a prominent clubwoman of the state and a trustee of the Salina public library, was produced by the author, assisted by Mrs Delia Brown, librarian, and Mrs Putman. The mirth-provoking remarks of two ladies desiring assistance on a club outline, although somewhat exaggerated, were not unfamiliar to librarians.

A spirited account of the A. L. A. meeting at Colorado Springs was rendered by Katheryn McLain, librarian of the Hays public library.

Mrs Huston, librarian of the Winfield public library, reported the South Central district meeting held at Wichita in May.

A most comprehensive paper on the "A, B, C's for small libraries" was read by Sarah Hougham, library organizer. The suggestion to add one day to the state meetings and conduct demonstrations of library processes was heartily received.

At the suggestion of W. H. Kerr, a committee was appointed to appraise subscription books, and librarians and book committees are urged to refer to this committee before purchasing subscription books.

Much time was given to the discussion of library extension in the state, particularly by means of county libraries. A county library bill was presented by a committee appointed for its preparation. Some amendments and changes were suggested and the committee instructed to cooperate with state and traveling

libraries and the Federation of Women's Clubs to secure the adoption of the bill at the next session of legislature.

A resolution was adopted asking for amendment of the existing library laws of the state so as to provide for a maximum tax of one mill on the dollar for cities of the second and third class and one-half mill for cities of the first class.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mary Cornelia Lee, Manhattan, president; Roberta McKowan, Herington, secretary; Rebecca D. Kiner, Hiawatha, treasurer; Mrs Jessie D. Huston, Winfield, first vice-president; Mrs Sara Seiple, Larned, second vice-president; Elizabeth Hull, Coffeyville, third vice-president.

The next meeting will be held at Hutchinson, Kansas.

IDA M. DAY, Secretary.

Maine—The Maine library association gathered at the Bangor public library October 29, for the annual all-day session. Owing to the small number, 42, the meeting was most informal and delightful. A teacher, a guest of the association, contrasted this meeting of the librarians with the convention held in Bangor by the teachers at the same time, saying that what the librarians lost in numbers they more than made up in enthusiasm, coöperation and ability to really get-together. Annie L. Barr presided most graciously. Business reports were received.

The committee of which Nellie Smith was the representative, was appointed last year for the purpose of establishing library institutes and schools and aiding library extension generally. For her labors in this work, the results of which are already apparent, Miss Smith was congratulated by the president.

Officers for 1920-21 will be Raymond L. Walkley, University of Maine, president; Evelyn L. Gilmore of Portland and Lucinda Marston of Presque Isle, vice presidents; Jennie M. Smith, Waterville, treasurer; and Marion Brainerd, Augusta, secretary. The following committees were also appointed:

The Handbook committee—Marion Brainerd, Jennie Smith and Edna Goodier. Committee on resolutions and courtesy—Marion Brainerd, Lucinda Marston and Annie E. Wayland. Nominating committee—Miss Smith of Waterville, Miss Hatch of Biddeford and Miss Foote of Bath.

It was voted to hold one big meeting each year instead of two meetings as formerly; and also to hold this meeting independent of the Teachers' convention.

The talks on Book selection covering the subjects history, travel, science, general literature and fiction were of special interest to the librarian of the small library seeking advice on how to choose wisely from the many attractive new books offered in these classes. These subjects were handled by Annie E. Wayland, Jennie M. Smith, Raymond L. Walkley and Mrs Kate Starbird respectively.

Mrs Kate C. Estabrooke needed no introduction to the librarians of Maine. Identified for the past 21 years with the work of the Maine library commission, she has watched its strong and steady growth until she now feels that its influence has been one of the strongest factors in raising the standard of library work in Maine. Her talk on the work of the commission was one of the features of the meeting.

Professor Wilmot B. Mitchell gave a delightful talk on "Brunswick-born books." While not a librarian, he met the librarian on common ground, their mutual love of books, as he related the literary associations which cluster around the town of Brunswick, Me. Jessica J. Haskell, a teacher in the Hallowell high school, kindly consented to hold up a mirror, showing us "Ourselves as others see us." More of this frank, genial and helpful criticism would surely help to oil the wheels of the library machinery and bring nearer that desired result, a complete and friendly understanding between the library and the public.

Massachusetts Library Club—The autumn meeting of the Massachusetts

Library Club was held at Worcester Thursday and Friday, October 21-22. The meeting opened Thursday afternoon in the Art Room of the Worcester public library, John G. Moulton presiding. Robert K. Shaw, librarian of the Worcester public library welcomed the club to Worcester.

Walter S. Young, assistant superintendent of schools at Worcester, spoke on "The common problem of school and library." He wondered if the two cannot work out some way in which source material may be used by pupils to arrive at a knowledge of the facts and to form independent judgments on the basis of the documents in a case. We are getting away from a mental independence. There is a growing impulse in education to find some solution for the problems of the individual child. We have schools for the sub-normal and immigrant child, but very few for the super-developed child. Educators are cautioned against small classes and the segregation of limited groups. The school must call on outside agencies in doing this work and the library is the one to which they turn most naturally to supply material for individual needs.

The afternoon session was held at the Worcester art museum, where the club was officially welcomed by the curator, Dr Raymond I. Wyer. He outlined briefly the characteristics of the two schools of thought in connection with museum work. The intellectual side of a museum's work should be combined, he thought, with its aesthetic side. The library and the museum have this in common, that the function of both is to prevent excesses and to gain a correct perspective. Eva March Tappan then read a paper, "On building Americanism in the hearts of boys and girls thru books." The teacher, the librarian, the guidance even of a popular boy or girl, the Boy Scouts and home influence and training are all helps in this direction, but Miss Tappan would place greatest reliance on books. She urged the reading of biography, history and books of travel relating to our country. In poems Miss Tappan finds the noblest expres-

sion of Americanism. Finally, fiction of the right sort has its place in this educational process.

In discussing "Some worth while technical books" Dr Ira N. Hollis, president of the Worcester Polytechnic institute omitted, for the most part, mention of specific titles and spoke of the qualities which should be present in the best scientific literature. The scientific writing of H. G. Wells was highly commended and Dr Hollis especially mentioned the volume "The world set free" as being one of the best treatises on the problems of today.

The session on Thursday evening was held at the Boston Store restaurant. Rev Edward C. Boynton spoke of the "Pilgrim Tercentenary celebration at Leyden," describing the experiences of the American delegation and the hospitality accorded them in Holland. Dr Arthur Gordon Webster, head of the Physics Department at Clark University, gave an illustrated lecture on "French universities of today." He reviewed his experiences with an American educational mission in France, where he visited many delightful university towns and, later, Alsace and the devastated regions of Northern France.

The session on Friday forenoon was held at the Hotel Bancroft. The meeting opened with an address on Russia by Dr Louis N. Wilson, librarian of Clark University. In spite of his familiarity with the Russian language and customs thru long residence in the country, Dr Wilson disclaimed any special knowledge of present-day conditions. These, he thought, are known to hardly any one outside of Russia. He gave an illuminating account of those Russian characteristics and events which have produced the present chaotic conditions. Katharine P. Loring reported on the work of the Boston Committee for Refugees in Russia. The organization, thru its agents, has helped not less than 10,000 refugees from the Caucasus and Southern Russia, who have come to Constantinople and the islands of the Aegean. The work was first directed towards supplying necessary clothing.

More recently the Committee has turned its attention to educational work to counteract the literature of the Bolsheviks. A printing press has been established at Sofia and four thousand primers have already been sent to Southern Russia for distribution. For the Committee on Pensions Miss Loring reported that a bill asking for a system of contributory pensions for librarians was presented in the last session of the state legislature by Senator Loring of Beverly. The bill was recommended by the Social Welfare and the Ways and Means committees and passed the Senate. It failed of passage in the House. E. Kathleen Jones, reporting for the Publicity Committee, said that owing largely to difficulty in securing space in New England newspapers, the plan of having a library column, "Books at Work," was discontinued. Miss Jones also made an earnest appeal for the support of the Enlarged Program.

Binding Symposium

A Symposium on Binding Economies was conducted by George H. Evans, librarian of the Somerville public library. A letter from Louisa M. Hooper, librarian of the Brookline public library, advocated a standardized binding for periodicals and called attention to morocco cloth as a binding material. Herbert W. Fison, librarian of the Malden public library, discussed a method he had devised for binding magazines. "By using a heavy Kraft paper for covers and sewing these volumes together with Belfast twine, we have found that it answers all purposes."

Harold T. Dougherty, librarian of the Newton free library, discussed a plan to standardize magazine binding. Mr Dougherty was convinced that there is no present uniformity in size or style of lettering for similar magazines. He suggested "that the position of lettering should be determined by centering the title in panel 2 and the volume, months and years in panel 4; and that the size of the panel should be fixed by setting off $\frac{1}{4}$ inch at the top of the volume, 1 inch at the bottom and dividing the balance into five equal panels." A Binding

Committee was appointed to study the subject and report at some future meeting.

Bertha E. Mahoney spoke briefly of the Book Caravan and of its arrival in Worcester. She outlined the summer itinerary and anticipated some possible questions. Since starting on July 5th the car had visited 49 places and only missed one stop and one book shipment. About 4000 volumes have been sold. The calls have been mostly for art books, poetry, travel, biographies, letters and out-of-door books.

FRANK H. WHITMORE, Recorder.

Nebraska—The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Nebraska Library Association, held in Lincoln, October 20-22, was attended by 85 librarians with 3 high school, 15 college and normal school, 2 state institution and 5 state librarians and four trustees in addition to the public librarians.

While the "County Library" was the central theme, there was sufficient variety in handling and development to make it a most valuable meeting.

The two papers, "The Nebraska Library Commission, its aims and means of service," and "Comparisons" of other commissions of the middle west, disclosed the fact that an increased appropriation must be obtained for the Nebraska Library Commission. To this end a legislative committee was appointed to assist in securing the increased appropriation and also to assist in making any changes in library legislation that may seem advisable.

After a discussion of the need for information on libraries and book selection by rural school teachers, a motion was adopted which provided for the appointment of a committee, with power to act, to investigate the need for instruction in simple library methods and to consider the best methods of providing it for the rural teachers. Offers were received from the State department of education to cooperate in printing lists and including this instruction in the Normal training classes, and also from the Extension

department of the University Farm to assist in printing lists and in making any survey deemed advisable.

The committee appointed to study conditions and library needs in Nebraska, Malcolm Wyer, chairman, reported that 75,000 people live outside of towns having public libraries and have no library facilities except the privilege of borrowing books from the traveling libraries sent out by the Commission, and that the Commission cannot serve as it should because of the lack of funds. The committee reported that it believed the solution was the County Library. To accomplish this a campaign of education to arouse interest is necessary, therefore the following resolutions were submitted:

1. That every member of the Nebraska library association should work to increase the appropriation for the library commission so that the commission can carry on this educational campaign for county libraries.

2. A legislative committee of the Nebraska library association should be appointed to assist in securing the commission appropriation and also to assist in any changes in library legislation that may seem advisable.

3. The Nebraska library association should pass a resolution urging library boards to secure an increase in the levy for library support.

4. The members of the association should become familiar with the county library and its workings, should study out a plan for a county library system in their community, and should talk county library to the members of their board, to the county superintendent, the county agent, etc.

Motions were carried which provided for the appointment of all committees recommended in this report.

William J. Hamilton of the Indiana library commission spoke on the County Library in a most instructive and interesting manner and many ideas for those who are contemplating county libraries were offered.

Art in the library, home and school, worth-while children's books, book selection all received careful treatment.

As Nebraska was represented at the American Library Association meeting in Colorado Springs by twenty-eight librarians, several contributed their impressions and benefits received from attending.

New Jersey—The librarians and trustees of New Jersey libraries met in special session at Plainfield on November 10, 1920, there being approximately 175 present.

The meeting was in charge of E. L. Farr, first vice-president, and was opened by an address of welcome from Alexander Gilbert, president of the board of directors, Plainfield public library. Dr Leonard Waldo, chairman, library committee, Plainfield, gave a short talk on the value of libraries and the responsibility of directors and librarians as custodians for the dissemination of the freedom of religious thought thru books.

Five or 10 minutes each were allotted to Miss Manley, executive secretary of the Library Workers association, who made a plea for the recognition of the importance of that association in the library world thru increased membership, and use in applying to the association when staff vacancies occur; to Margaret Jackson in charge of advanced courses, library school of the New York public library, who presented the aims of the courses stating that the extent to which the classes were patronized would decide their continuance; and to Dr H. B. Van Hoesen, assistant librarian, Princeton university library, who, reviewed Slosson's book, "Creative chemistry" (Noted in PUBLIC LIBRARIES for November, p. 499).

The real interest of the meeting was aroused when Howard Hughes, librarian, Trenton public library, led the discussion on "A minimum wage for New Jersey librarians and assistants." This was a subject carried over from the Atlantic City meeting and brought spirited discussion. Mr George contended that as conditions differed in different cities and libraries no standardization could well be made, while Miss Peters advocated a sliding scale to meet different conditions. Miss Pratt asked Miss Jackson if the New York public library association had adopted standardization: the reply being that in endeavoring to standardize, an itemized expense budget for a library worker was

drawn up and presented to the trustees of the New York public library to have their wives check up. The result was an immediate increase in salaries. This brought the remark from Miss Askew that in order to fix your salaries you must first know your income, with Miss Pratt replying that in order to fix an income you must decide the salary question, thus showing how inevitably the two are bound up together. Miss Baldwin stated that in the New York association a salary standard was fixed some 20 years ago but that the difficulty arose in getting the figures to back up one's arguments, and advocated the use of teachers' salaries as a standard, varying in accordance with the comparative quality of education required to fill positions. Mr Gilbert, a prominent New York banker, brought to the attention of the meeting the fact that prices and wages had reached their apex since the war, and were beginning to drop and many people were being thrown out of employment and thought it wise to defer this question to some later time when prices were more stable. Dr Van Hoesen argued that librarians' salaries had not even as yet reached the high water mark and the endeavor was to have them made equal with salaries in other lines. Upon Mr Hughes putting to vote the wisdom of deferring the matter for future consideration, the motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

By this time the meeting was well under way for discussion, for when Mr Mack reviewed the work of the Finance committee, the reason for its appointment, in contemplation of amending the state library law, and reviewed the discussion brought forth at the Atlantic City meeting, the subject was keenly handled from the floor. Miss Hinsdale made a plea that the character of library work would suffer if by changing the law the amount stated was not sufficient for future growth, and suggested changing the present permissible one-sixth to two-thirds.

Mr Gilbert reviewed the statute under which the Plainfield library was chartered allowing one-half a mill, and sug-

gested unifying the law for all libraries. Miss Hinsdale contested that one mill would better allow for future growth and advocated taking final action on the findings of the Finance committee at this time, suggesting that each library make special appeal to its state senator for concerted action. Mr La Monte suggested that each library board should go before the legislature and ask for an adequate sum, as requests in the past have been too modest. From experience he told how discussion and rediscussion at legislative sessions resulted in considerable cutting down from the original sum applied for and hence suggested applying for the full amount. Miss Hinsdale made a motion that

"Proper action be taken to request the New Jersey legislature, during its next session, to amend the so-called 'library law of 1905' ('An act concerning free libraries': Laws of 1905, p. 274; Ch. 150: Sect. 1: Par. 4) so that the permissible amount shall be raised from *one-sixth* to *two-thirds* of a mill on every dollar of assessable property."

Miss Peters questioned as to whether the mandatory one-third would allow for sufficient growth, and upon question Miss Askew stated that about 37 cities received their full amount by law, to which Mr Mack took exception, stating that from his questionnaire many cities do not receive their full amount as the governing body disregarded the law. Mr La Monte brought hearty applause when he replied that something must be the trouble with a community if it is not receiving the full amount that the law allows. Miss Peters moved that Miss Hinsdale's motion be amended to read "Mandatory one-half and permissible one-half," as this would benefit the smaller communities as well as the larger ones. Mr George raised the question of having another law to provide for the small libraries other than the one-half mandatory, but argued that as present conditions were temporary it was unwise to force for something unnecessary, and moved that the last motion be withdrawn leaving the motion as at first presented by Miss Hinsdale. Miss Peters suggested allowing the mandatory one-third to remain on the statute books for small

libraries in cities of a certain population, while the one-half mandatory be applied to the larger cities, as it is only reasonable to conclude that libraries are going backward if there are not sufficient funds to run them properly. If libraries are not necessary to warrant sufficient funds, let us close them. Miss Pratt asked what cities would find one-half a mill too much, but Miss Askew warned against tampering with the mandatory amount as the trend of the times is away from mandatory legislation, and suggested retaining the present mandatory law, and those cities wanting the one-half mill, campaign individually for it. Miss Peters said that cities under Commission form of government could not campaign, and still urged the one-half of a mill, letting each city handle objections as they arose. The matter was finally put to vote, the majority favoring the permissible two-thirds with the present one-third mandatory. Mr George made a motion suggesting that the Finance committee be retained to put this motion in proper shape and have same pass thru the correct channels toward being enacted and placed upon the statute books. This motion was seconded and carried.

Miss Askew followed with an illuminating account of the Burlington county library campaign and how the county scheme will work toward bringing books not only to the rural community but will aid the town library as well, as libraries affiliating with the county scheme will receive a portion of the money voted for this purpose, as well as books and the advice of the county librarian. In other words, the county library scheme is on the same plan as the New York library system: one central library and innumerable branches. There will be a book-wagon, too. Miss Askew answered numerous questions and named counties that are already interested in the project.

Frederick G. Melcher, executive secretary of the National association of book publishers, brought much humor as well as practical suggestions into his talk on the book proposition and book prices. He showed from figures that

after the Civil war books doubled in price, hence history was only repeating itself, and that today's difficulty is caused by the shrinkage of the dollar. What with the advance in wages, the paper proposition and royalty increases, the publisher more than ever before is obliged to scrutinize most carefully each title, cutting out more and more from the final list for publication. Illustrations too, being costly, are being eliminated, while paper-covered books for individual purchase, costing only 10 cents less, were not advocated. Mr Melcher closed his remarks by commending the good work done by libraries during the war and said that the results of this work were being realized at the present time by the publishers, and that unless libraries can "carry on" it was useless to have created the interest in reading. A belief in the place of the book in our educational and every-day lives should enable librarians to get the tax money required.

As unfinished business, Dr Van Hoesen presented the following resolution which was favorably seconded and carried:

Resolved: that the president of the N. J. L. A. be asked to appoint a committee to assist the Finance committee to seek amendment to library legislation in the following ways:

1. By estimating for the committee the increase in costs of all sorts contained in library budgets.
2. By summarizing for the committee reports of other library associations on minimum wage scales, especially the recent report of the New York library association.
3. By formulating its expert opinion as a committee as to the rating of library staffs as compared with other public employees, taking care to distinguish between those educationally and professionally trained and those professionally unskilled.
4. Be it further resolved that this committee shall consist of members of the N. J. L. A. connected with public library work.

The meeting then adjourned for a buffet luncheon at Truell Inn.

An exhibit of children's books drew many back to the library and it was late afternoon when the guests departed.

FLORENCE M. BOWMAN,
Secretary

Ohio—The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Ohio library association was held in Cleveland, October 5-7, 1920, with an attendance of 350. This meeting was, in point of numbers, and in the spirit of enthusiasm which prevailed thruout, one of the most successful ever held in Ohio.

President Joseph L. Wheeler, in opening the convention, expressed the pleasure of the association at the privilege of meeting in Cleveland and the opportunity of seeing the work of one of the finest library systems in the country. President Wheeler gave a survey of library conditions in Ohio.

Following reports of various officers and committees, Elima A. Foster, head of the department of philosophy and religion, Cleveland public library, and secretary of the A. L. A. section on religion and theology, gave an interesting and helpful talk on "Religious books in today's libraries," using in her discussion questionnaires previously sent out. She showed wide possibilities for the library's usefulness in this field, and urged greater attention to the building up of religious collections and to publicity methods for arousing interest in them.

The opening address of the Tuesday evening session was given by Hon. Theodore E. Burton. Mr Burton paid a high tribute to librarianship as a calling. He said that never was library work of more importance than now, emphasizing the library's part in the education of the adult foreigner and its place in moral education.

"The loan desk from both sides" was the subject of a paper given in her charming manner by Jennie M. Flexner, head of circulation work, Louisville public library, in which she discussed the relation of the loan assistant and the public, and of the librarian and assistants.

The evening closed with a reception by the trustees and members of the staffs of the various Cleveland libraries.

The Wednesday sessions were held in the beautiful Cleveland museum of

art. Frederick Allen Whiting, director of the museum, opened the session with welcoming remarks. He described most interestingly the work of the museum and gave a cordial invitation to Ohio librarians to use its resources, offering annual passes to any who might be able to visit it frequently.

Carl H. Milam, secretary of the American Library Association, in his talk on "Adult education," showed the responsibility of the library for the million boys and girls from 14 to 16 who every year leave school. He said that reading courses on every subject should be available thru the A. L. A., state associations and the local library to those who want them.

"Books and the citizenship of tomorrow" was the topic of Dorsey W. Hyde, president of the Special libraries association, in which he urged the library to make itself useful to the city departments and officials, to keep in close touch with the city council and the civic work of the community.

William J. Hamilton, secretary of the Indiana library commission, ably discussed "County library legislation," a subject of utmost importance in view of the present situation in Ohio.

The afternoon was given over to section meetings as follows:

- College and reference section, led by Prof. A. S. Root;
- Special libraries section, led by Alta Claffin;
- Loan work conference, led by Anna M. Tarr;
- Small libraries section, led by Alice S. Tyler;
- School and children's work conference, led by Miss A. S. Cutter.

Following the afternoon session, a most enjoyable reception and tea was given by Western Reserve university at Haydn hall, College for Women.

At the association dinner, in which a large number participated, the association was addressed by Alice S. Tyler, Ohio's president of the American Library Association.

The evening meeting was opened by Mrs. Theresa West Elmendorf, Buf-

falo public library, who with the subject "The golden books" led us delightfully into the realms of fancy. She said there should be more effort in the library to show the real charm that books possess.

Henry Turner Bailey, director of the Cleveland school of art, spoke on the library as an influence for art, outlining various practical methods for art work in the library. Some of these were: The use of book jackets and other pictures in color on appropriate mounts; the posting of "seeing lists" directing attention to best illustrated books; the making of an "alphabeticon" or collection of things arranged alphabetically, on colored mounts; the utilization of the enthusiasm of local camera fiends; close co-operation with the teacher of drawing. Mr Bailey called attention to the "Handbook of art in our own country" compiled for the General Federation of Women's Clubs by Mrs Everett W. Pattison.

The closing address of the evening was given by Burton E. Stevenson of Chillicothe, European representative of the A. L. A., who spoke on "Some results of Library War Service," emphasizing the maintenance of the same high standard of service as was manifested during the war.

The Thursday morning session, at which Wells L. Griswold, trustee, Youngstown public library, presided, was devoted to legislative problems and unfinished business. The points discussed on the previous day by William J. Hamilton, of the Indiana commission, were gone over carefully by the trustees and librarians in the brief revision of the county law, which is to be introduced in January. Among other revisions is a minimum tax, compulsory action on the part of the commissioners, certification of trained librarians, and ample provision for the various forms of contract. Special interest was attached to the discussion of the State Library Commission legislation to take it out of politics, and both candidates for Governor pre-

sented to the conference a statement to the effect that in their appointments to the commission and state librarianship only training and experience would be considered, rather than political expediency. The Gardner Act for more adequate school funds, passed in the spring, was discussed in its relation to Ohio libraries which operate under school boards. In case the attorney-general rules that this does not affect the library levies, a bill to secure such result will also be introduced in January.

The following officers were elected: President, C. P. P. Vitz., Cleveland; first vice-president, E. I. Antrim, Van Wert; second vice-president, E. Gertrude Avey, Cincinnati; secretary, Margaret Dunbar, Kent; treasurer, A. S. Root, Oberlin.

On Thursday afternoon, thru the hospitality of public spirited citizens, the association was most delightfully entertained by an automobile ride to three of Cleveland's branch libraries, thence to the Lakewood library and the Clifton club, where tea was served by the directors of the Lakewood library.

The closing session of the conference was opened by President Wheeler, who presented invitations for the 1921 meeting from the city of Columbus and from Mr and Mrs E. I. Antrim of Van Wert.

Henry Seidel Canby, author and literary editor of the *New York Evening Post*, spoke on "Book reviewing and the libraries." In regard to the deterioration in the quality of book reviewing of recent years, Mr Canby expressed the opinion that if librarians insist on good sound reviewing they will get it.

"The romance of library service on the seas" was the subject of Mrs Henry Howard of Cleveland, who gave a sympathetic account of the life of the boys in the Merchant Marine and the value of book service to them. She said that up to three months ago 4,441 Merchant ships had been served by the A. L. A.

As the final number of a most delightful meeting, a humorous sketch, "The library of the past; the library of the future," the work of Gordon Thayer and collaborators, was cleverly presented by members of the staff of Cleveland libraries.

IDA E. SLOAN,
Secretary.

Pennsylvania—With an unusually large number of librarians present, the twentieth meeting of the Keystone State library association opened Thursday evening, October 28, at the Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg. For the good attendance, a promising programme, the accessibility of the city, and particularly the opportunity to learn more of the workings of the State library service, and of the State Departments, were doubtless responsible.

The President, Dr John H. Leete, opened the program with an address that was a splendid call to librarians everywhere to remember that, however hard financial straits may press today, however great the necessity for the difficult task, to them, of wearing the garb of mendicants, however important larger appropriations might be, still the old ideal of the librarian is always that of giving, not getting; that much can still be given in sort of service no money can ever render; that the compensations, the immeasurable opportunity, the help needed, are always and will be forever the reasons for joy in such service.

The continued growth of such work, and the increased outlook of the librarian of today is one of the greatest influences in the steady maintenance of the American order; one of the most important services to be offered to the nation. If we have been denied adequate support, it merely proved that we have not yet gotten our message over, that our work so far has been that of the ship that has not yet "found herself," and furthermore, it is clear that the feeling of each member of our profession therefore reflects the value of the work that each library is doing.

A comprehensive and interesting talk upon the "Outlook in publishing," given

by Frederic G. Melcher of *Publisher's Weekly* was the second event of the evening. The growth of the publishing houses in the United States was briefly sketched, the history of our final independence of English influences and the new trails opened out in untried fields by American houses outlined, and new opportunities for librarians and publishers to work together suggested with a brief reference especially to the Children's Book Week.

The evening closed with the picture drawn by Asa Don Dickinson of his "Library work in India," where he had gone to undertake the stupendous task of teaching some modern methods of librarianship to the slow-changing East. How difficult, how irritating, how amusing these experiences were, it was of most unusual interest to learn.

For the second day the formal sessions, with Miss Fox, vice-president, in the chair, began with a suggestive and comprehensive talk from Carl Milam on "The library and adult education." Mr Milam sketched the various forms that after-school education takes today: university extension, correspondence schools, and the like, all indicating the desire of thousands to acquire more knowledge. He spoke of the greater scope of the library's possibilities, and gave various hints of the ways in which there can be greater coöperation with these agencies. He particularly emphasized the fact that librarians should seek places on the programs of other national organizations, and give officials of those bodies place on library programs, while authors of courses of study might be influenced to refer as a matter of course to the facilities of the library for their students.

The former president of the American Civic association, and the man who is largely responsible for Harrisburg's famous river front, and notable for his work in the beautifying of cities elsewhere, J. Horace MacFarland, was introduced next as "Master Printer," and spoke most interestingly on the history of illustrative photography, telling "How pictures are obtained" by various processes, describing some of his exper-

iences in the search for the perfect picture.

Miss MacDonald and Miss Titcomb, state director, and regional director of the A. L. A. Books for Everybody movement, then spoke. Miss MacDonald reporting the work accomplished in Pennsylvania during the summer, and Miss Titcomb, in describing the experiences of a campaign for increased appropriations conducted for her library, giving many helps and suggestions for others to follow in like work. She told with particular pleasure of the help and courtesy extended to her by the many labor unions to whom she had appealed, and of the aroused interest in the library itself shown after the campaign.

A committee appointed to act upon recommendations of the executive committee, which had made suggestions for recruiting for increased membership, made the following report, which should be of interest to other associations (it is here somewhat abbreviated):

"The committee recommends that a concerted effort be made to secure such institutional memberships of public, college and normal school libraries as do not now belong to the association, as well as of individual librarians, assistants and trustees.

1. That...it be handled thru district meetings and city staff associations, so that the campaign be intensive as well as extensive.

2. That librarians be asked to join out of a sense of professional fair play, that their relationship be made one of giving as well as getting.

3. That institutions be told that no longer will the membership fees of their librarians pay for an annual meeting of our former standards, and that institutional memberships must be held if these are not to be lowered.

4. That trustees be induced to pay individual fees, and that the trustee's section be fostered, to this end.

5. That an especial appeal be made to attract assistants, and to make some effort to give assistants more than is now given.

6. Therefore the committee recommends that there be issued an annual roster of members, and report of the annual meeting. The hope of the committee is that by coöperation with the state commission the issue of "Library notes" next appearing after each meeting can contain this material, to be then sent to each member of the association.

EDITH PATTERSON, Chairman.

Round tables, each of great interest, occupied Friday afternoon entirely. The only difficulty was that one was reluctant to miss any of the practical talks and conferences. Since the association had decided that the recommendations of the committee as to publishing papers should be turned over to the executive board, it is probable that these will be secured and printed in full, much to the benefit of members who could not be present. Miss Betteny, head of the children's department, Osterhout library, Wilkesbarre, conducted the conference on Library work with children, where Miss Amelia Pickett, Mauch Chunk; Miss Williamson, Philadelphia; Miss Jessie Wilson, Berwick, discussed various important phases of work.

The school and college section was directed by Miss Evans, Juniata college, and Miss Alice McGirr, Pittsburgh; Miss Cochran, West Chester; Miss Reed, Bryn Mawr college. Dr Runkle, State college, and Miss Avery, Kutztown, read papers and entered the discussions following. The last Round Table was in charge of Miss Kelly, of Pittsburgh, and Miss Crandle, Dubois; Miss McAlainey, Philadelphia; Miss True, Erie; Miss Eaton, Harrisburg; Miss Dorrance, Wilkesbarre; Miss Fox, Foxburg; Miss MacDonald, Harrisburg. Miss Fisher took up the question of Community work in all its various forms,—establishing points of contact with non-users of the library, coöperation with other agencies, and present and future plans, in a most practical and efficient manner.

Friday evening was devoted to one of the chief features of the program—the work of the various state departments, and the manner in which they could be of service to libraries and in which libraries could work in conjunction with their bureaus. Dr Finegan, the new commissioner of education for the state, gave an important address, outlining his plans for better coöperation, and announcing that an expert, Miss Zechert, of Rochester, would be head of the department that would, thru its work in making reading lists, supplementary plans, and the like in the study of liter-

ature and English, keep in close touch with every library in the state. He urged the establishment and maintenance of high professional standards, certification, and a demand for equal support with the public schools.

Dr Rasmussen, state secretary of agriculture, described in an enlightening way the aims and ideals of the great work in Pennsylvania today of this department, and the opportunities open to libraries to be of assistance. Dr Montgomery, state librarian, traced the history and work of the State library, and Mr Connelly, head of the department of labor and industry, told of his vitally important work in this industrial state, and with the aid of pictures, and a "movie" reel, showed the rehabilitation possible among injured men.

The last session Saturday morning was a short one so that members might have a chance to go over the great capitol buildings, see the famous Abbey and Oakley mural decorations and paintings, and learn more about the State library. Dr Leete introduced Dr F. Lewis Pattee, professor of English literature at State college, author of "A history of American literature since 1870" and other books, as the first speaker. In a delightful talk, Dr Pattee urged a greater use of the rich fields of history in the state, suggesting that there were plenty of romantic episodes and tales to make the dry bones live for readers and students. He read a brilliant and poetical description, by way of illustration, from his MS. of old Philadelphia during the British occupation. He was followed by Mrs Helen R. Martin, who as a writer has made the field of the "Pennsylvania Dutch" her own, and who spoke on the subject of "Some amusing experiences among the Pennsylvania Dutch while cavassing for suffrage."

With the election of the following officers for the ensuing year: Isabel Turner, Allentown library, president; Dr E. W. Runkle, State college, vice-president; Inez Crandle, Dubois, secretary, and Anna MacDonald, treasurer, the meeting adjourned for the year. M. E. CROCKER, Secretary.

South Dakota.—The fourteenth annual meeting of the South Dakota Library Association was held at Huron October 25-27, 1920, and in point of attendance and enthusiasm was the most successful meeting in the history of the organization.

The address of welcome was given by Dr Gage, president of Huron college. Dr Gage dwelt upon the privilege and opportunity of the librarian to give to her patrons a personal introduction to the best in books. Mabel Richardson, librarian of the State university at Vermillion, gave the response. The general theme of this talk was the county library and Miss Richardson, who spent her childhood in a rural community in South Dakota, in which a book was a rarity, was well able to present the need of a larger and more general library service.

An interesting report was given by Miss Pratt, chairman of a committee appointed to investigate salaries and living expenses of librarians in South Dakota. Questionnaires were sent to all libraries in the state except the very small libraries which are open but a few hours a week, and which employ only part-time librarians. Many of the librarians in the smaller libraries did not reply, but from the 35 answers returned some interesting facts were disclosed. Sixty-five per cent of the librarians reporting have had some library school training. Thirty-one out of the thirty-five expected to remain in their present positions for at least another year. The average salary for this year is \$1,290, an increase of 27 per cent over that of last year. This increase in salaries is quite gratifying and is better than had been expected. Some salaries proved to be too low and a resolution was adopted, urging that every librarian in the state, working regular hours, receive at least a living wage. The average for living expenses was far too low since the larger percentage of the librarians reporting live at home.

County libraries

Leora J. Lewis, state field librarian, talked on the library needs and facilities of South Dakota. With the aid of a large map, a library survey of the state

was taken. This showed 51 city libraries in the state, one tax-supported county library in actual operation and one such library in process of establishment. But one town in the state of more than 2,500 people is without a library and there are only three towns of more than 1,500 people and ten towns of more than 1,000 people without libraries. In 28 counties there is not a single public library of any sort, and in most of these the county library would be very practicable. Most of the city libraries established should be branches of county systems or should be under contract with county commissioners to furnish service to the counties in which they are located. A program for work for the coming year adopted by the association included the introduction of several amendments to the present county library law, the promotion of a general publicity campaign to bring about a greater interest in libraries and in reading in the state, and a membership drive for the S. D. L. A. Committees were appointed and definite plans made for carrying on the work undertaken.

W. J. Hamilton, secretary of the Indiana commission, was present during the first day of the meeting and gave a very interesting and instructive talk on "County libraries." Coming from a state in which the county library is well past the experimental stage, Mr Hamilton was able to speak with authority on the subject and gave much practical help as well as a great deal of inspiration to the librarians of the state, most of whom are considering plans for the establishment of county libraries in their own counties.

A plan for certification was presented by Mrs Carter, a member of the Certification committee, and was adopted with one slight change. This plan was printed in the *South Dakota Bulletin* for September.

The last day of the session was given over to a very successful book symposium, to round tables and election of officers. The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Ada M. Pratt, Watertown; vice-president, Mabel

Rieley, Huron; secretary - treasurer, Maud Russell Carter, Spearfish.

The social events of the meeting were the banquet given by the board of trustees of the Huron library and a tea at Huron college. The banquet, given in Guild hall, was a very delightful affair. Doane Robinson, state historian, gave interesting reminiscences of Kennet Harris, who spent the early days of his career as a journalist and short story writer in western South Dakota. Mrs M. E. Blystone sang two selections. A feature of the evening's program which followed the banquet was a one-act morality play, showing the inoculation of a staid, old-fashioned custodian of books with the virtues of the modern, alert, progressive librarian. This play was written by Miss Rieley, librarian of the Huron public library, and was presented by students of Huron college. The delightful tea at the college, held in the library, was preceded by a drive about the city arranged by the Commercial club. This sight-seeing drive included a visit to the well-equipped high school library.

A. L. A. publications were on display during the meeting and W. H. Powers of Brookings made a strong plea for the membership in the A. L. A. of every member of the association.

Southeastern Library Conference—A library conference for seven southeastern states, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and the Carolinas was held at the Signal Mountain hotel, Chattanooga, on November 12-13.

The meeting was planned to give an opportunity for discussion of library problems of special interest to the south. Library commissions and extension work, county libraries, negro library service, were some of the problems discussed. C. Seymour Thompson, librarian of the Public Library of Savannah, presented a brief survey of existing library conditions in the Southeast. Mary B. Palmer, director of the North Carolina library commission, spoke on a working plan for library extension, dwelling on the work of state commissions and particularly of

county libraries. Existing laws and needed legislation were discussed by Charlotte Templeton of the Georgia library commission. The need of trained library workers and methods of attracting desirable people into the profession were discussed by J. F. Marron, librarian of the Jacksonville public library and Charles H. Stone of the Peabody college at Nashville. Negro library service was presented by Ruth Barker of Memphis, and created a discussion of great interest. Professor J. B. Rutland of the Alabama Polytechnic institute, discussed with a great deal of freshness the always interesting subject of the coöperation of the public library and the public school, making a strong plea for county libraries as the only system by which adequate library service could be rendered the schools. That Lloyd W. Josselyn of the Birmingham public library, was qualified to speak on "Reaching the business man" is indicated in the recent 56% increase in his annual appropriation. He spoke particularly of the technical and industrial reference work done in his library as the surest means of reaching the men who make appropriations. Marilla Freeman, of the Goodwyn institute library, Memphis, conducted a round table on recent books. The guests of the conference were Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant secretary of the A. L. A., who spoke on "The Librarians opportunity," Miss Ahern, of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, who contributed a great deal to the discussions, and Franklin F. Mathiews, librarian of the Boy Scouts, who talked on the co-operation of librarians and booksellers. The library staff and the board of directors of the Chattanooga library exemplified true southern hospitality and in Mr Mahoney, the chairman of the board, was found at last the model trustee.

A beautiful tribute was paid by Professor Rutland to Dr Thomas M. Owen, of the Alabama department of archives and history, who died in March.

Chicago Library Club—The Chicago Library Club, on October 20th opened the 1920-21 program with a meeting in the

auditorium of the Western Society of Engineers.

The interest of this meeting centered around the Book Fair being held by Marshall Field & Company at this time. Mr Hackett, representing the Brick Row Book Shop of New Haven, Conn., spoke in an entertaining manner of that exhibit. He urged upon librarians a special effort to collect and preserve the older literature.

The Club also welcomed the opportunity of hearing Enos Mills in short stories of his experience and in poems. Mr Henry of the University of Chicago pointed out the features of the Book Fair he had noted. Another glimpse of the Fair was given by one who had had a hand in the plans, Mr Sullivan of Marshall Field & Company.

On November 11th, the Chicago Library Club enjoyed the opportunity to hear W. L. George, English novelist, in a lecture given at the City Club. With "Literary taste and how to acquire it" as the subject he greatly pleased his audience.

Programs for the year have been printed and may be had from the secretary.

VIRGINIA SAVAGE.

Pasadena—The Pasadena Library club held its first regular meeting of the year on Saturday evening, November 6, at the Mt. Wilson Observatory library. About 80 were present in spite of the inclement weather. Dr Walter S. Adams of the Observatory staff gave a most interesting talk on the work of the observatory and accompanied his talk with some wonderful slides in connection with the construction of the two large telescopes on Mt. Wilson and the work being done with them.

Elizabeth Connor, librarian of the Mt. Wilson Observatory library, gave a short talk on the library and some of the interesting books to be found there.

The meeting was a special welcome to the librarian and staff of the Henry E. Huntington library and art gallery. George Watson Cole, the librarian, and

Mrs Cole and about 13 of the staff members and their wives were present. Representatives from the Los Angeles public library staff and board of trustees, the Los Angeles county library, the Alhambra public library, the librarians from all of the Pasadena libraries, as well as many other friends of the library profession were present. After the program, punch was served and a very pleasant social hour was spent in the interesting observatory library.

FRANCES H. SPINING, Sec'y.-Treas.

Latin American Institute

The Catholic University of America has received as a gift the library of Dr Manoel de Oliveira, Brazilian diplomat, historian and man of letters. It contains 30,000 volumes and *objets d'art*, valued at \$500,000. It is given as the nucleus of a Latin-American institute designed to promote cordial intellectual relations between Latin America and the United States.

Grace L. Betteridge

Betteridge, Grace L., for 25 years a member of the staff of the New York State traveling libraries section and for the past 11 years its head, died at Albany on Sunday evening, November 14, five days after an operation for appendicitis.

Miss Betteridge was born at Riga, N. Y., and prepared for college at Brockport normal school. She entered Wellesley in 1887, leaving after two years to become a teacher. During the years 1894-98 she was a student in the New York State library school, joining the staff of the traveling libraries section in April, 1895.

Her associates on the staff of the State library regarded her as a loyal co-worker and friend and the younger members of her own staff have always looked up to her with esteem and affection. A wide circle of librarians and club women in all parts of New York State will regret her loss as that of a personal friend and trusted adviser.

EDNA M. SANDERSON.

Direct Publicity in Providence

William E. Foster, librarian of the Providence public library, sends a report by Miss Thayer of the North End branch, on a direct publicity campaign among the foreign residents of the district. Mr Foster gives generous credit to the pluck, enterprise and personal interest shown in the campaign. The circulars in foreign languages describing the library service, to which reference is made, have for several years been a feature of the library's work with foreigners. A portion of the report follows:

"I think you will be interested to hear how we are getting on with our circulars. I take a Polish boy with me. He is able to explain, not only to the Polish people, but also to the Lithuanians. We leave the library at twelve o'clock each day. On the first day we covered the district from Black street to Charles and from Chalkstone avenue to Orms. In this small section, I found 36 Irish or American, 4 Armenian, 13 Polish, 23 Jewish and 2 Lithuanian families. Everywhere I was received most courteously. One mother insisted upon my coming to hear her little girl play on the \$750 piano.

On the second day, we started on Charles streets near the mills and worked up to Orms street. From there we went down State street, around Boone and Field and back to the library. Here we found 46 Irish families, 1 Portuguese, 1 Polish, 10 colored families, 2 Greek and 52 Jewish. In this day's journey, I met one person who was very rude but I quite forgot it when almost the next woman picked me a bouquet from her cindery little garden.

Saturday was the hardest day we've had so far. We were down on Shawmut street and around Chalkstone avenue. I shall remember not to take Saturday for Jewish districts. All the men seemed to be at home and none of the women. However, we gave out 89 circulars.

Today we were on Goddard street. This is one of the most thickly populated streets in Providence. Most of the families are Jewish,—116 on one side of the street. Altogether we gave out 139 folders."

Children's Book Week Celebrations

Two notable celebrations of Children's book week (Nov. 15-20) were held in the Chicago district.

The Chicago public library held a series of conferences, open to parents,

teachers and others, on various phases of children's reading in the Thomas Hughes room for young people in the central library. An exhibit of approved books for children and a number of carefully prepared lists on children's reading were featured. The speakers and their subjects were: Julia A. Baker, librarian, Austin branch, Before the reading age; Florence McLean, children's librarian, Hiram Kelly branch, Fairy tales; Ruth Barlow, children's librarian, Woodlawn branch, The young book lover; Adah F. Whitcomb, chief, children's department, Some books I like and why I like them; May Massee, Poetry for children.

The Janet Steele library committee of the Parents-teachers association of the H. H. C. Miller school of Evanston, prepared an elaborate program for the week. Mrs Lucy Fitch Perkins and Eleanor Perkins read selections from their unpublished books. May Massee spoke on Books for children and Mrs Alice C. D. Riley and Mary Porter Pratt told stories based on *Siegfried*. Friday evening, November 19, was devoted to a musical program for children especially arranged by G. A. Grant-Schaeffer. A book plate designed by Milo Winter for the Janet Steele library was on exhibit for the first time as well as an exhibition of juvenile publications from the Children's book shop of Chicago.

The very marked influence of the publicity given the movement by the American Library Association and the National association of book publishers is seen in the large amount of space and advertising given to children's books in book stores and book departments. The Motor Boys, spurious Boy Scouts' series and sweetly sentimental girls' books have not disappeared but many more good books of greater attractiveness as well as of better literary quality are on display. The poorer books have also increased so much in price that they no longer appeal so strongly even to the frugal mind.

Library Schools Atlanta

Sarah C. N. Bogle gave two lectures to the school on November 15th, one on Children's work and the other on the Library and the schools.

Mary Eileen Ahern spoke the same day on "Our inheritance," in which she gave sketches and personal impressions of outstanding people in the library profession and which proved so interesting that she was asked to continue the next day.

TOMMIE DORA BARKER,
Director.

Los Angeles

Franklin K. Matthews, chief librarian of the Boy Scouts of America, spoke to the school on Boys' reading October 29. Several of the students interested in children's work will spend an afternoon during Children's book week in the bookstores, suggesting books to purchasers.

A special lecture on the Huntington library by George Watson Cole added interest to the Book history course. Later the school will have opportunity to make use of this rich collection, as the library at San Marino is to be opened to the public.

The third outside lecturer of the month was John Collier, Americanization director of the California commission of immigration and housing. He spoke of the library's share in Americanization and the use that clubwomen and specialists would make of bibliographies. The following week, as a part of their work in subject bibliography the students prepared lists of books and articles relating to foreign-born residents of California, Stevenson, Schliemann, John Muir, Schumann-Heink and others, for the use of the California Federation of women's clubs.

The students have chosen the following officers: Lila G. Dobell, Corvallis, Oregon, president; Christine Watson, Los Angeles, vice-president; Helen Rice, Hanford, secretary; Rosemary Livsey, Glendale, publicity director.

Marion Warren, 1919, was married to Leslie Boyd King of Govina, October 22.

MARION T. HORTON,
Principal.

New York public library

In connection with its advanced courses the library school is able to announce arrangements with other institutions in New York City whereby its own work may be supplemented, with advantage particularly to students who wish to prepare to conduct libraries of a special nature. There arise from time to time cases in which, in addition to such subjects in library economy as are treated in the advanced courses, students wish to pursue courses of broad professional and administrative interest, such as are of importance to social workers, research workers, business men or others as well as to librarians; or to take courses in specific subjects, or in the literature and bibliography of those subjects. For example, the study of population problems, public administration, and accounting, is of value in certain forms of library work; whereas a student planning to take charge of a library devoted to history, engineering, or languages, might require to pursue such study as would give him at least the equipment of a graduate student in the subject concerned. Through arrangements with Columbia university and with the New York school of social work, assurance is now given that anything available needed by a student, assuming that he is qualified to meet the requirements for the individual courses concerned, can be secured. Credit toward the diploma, up to a certain amount, will be granted by the school for such study.

Dr Frederik Hjelmqvist, director of the State Library commission of Sweden, spoke to the school on October 13, telling of library conditions in Sweden and of the work of his commission. On November 3, Miss Amelia Josephine Burr read selections from her poems at the Wednesday afternoon social hour. A meeting of the executive board of the Alumni association was held after the social hour on Wednesday, November 10.

E. J. REECE, Principal.

New York State

During the week of January 17 Joseph L. Wheeler, librarian, Public library, Youngstown, Ohio, will introduce the new required Senior course on the library and the community in five lectures which will be followed by a series of weekly seminars in charge of a member of the faculty. This course takes the place of the Community study which for some years has been accepted as an alternative for the Original bibliography. To what the library ought to know about the community will be added something of what the community ought to know about the library. The state, county and township, as well as the city, will be investigated and surveyed wholly from the library standpoint as fundamental preparation for any systematic library work.

The Senior elective course on school library work will be given during January and February. Miss Vought, state inspector of school libraries, will be in charge and will be assisted by two or three librarians engaged in high school and normal school work.

Visiting lecturers during the month were: Arne Kildal, B. L. S. '07, librarian of the Public library, Bergen, Norway, who is on leave of absence in this country for publicity work in connection with the Norwegian legation at Washington, who gave an illustrated talk on Norwegian libraries, October 23; W. R. Eastman, who gave his usual course of six lectures on Library building, November 4-10.

During the week of November 15 while the course in Bookbinding was underway, the students had an opportunity to study the A. L. A. Bookbinding exhibit which was on display in the school rooms.

The Junior class has elected the following officers: President, Sallie B. Kappes; vice-president, Mrs Elsie A. Weaver; secretary-treasurer, Gilbert H. Doane.

Margaret S. Williams, who joined the faculty in September, has been made an honorary member of the class of 1921.

EDNA M. SANDERSON, Vice director.

Pratt Institute

The annual reception given by the Graduates' association to the incoming class was held on Thursday evening, November 4. There were nearly 90 present including representatives of all the classes from 1901 to 1921, with the exception of 1896, 1907, 1911 and 1912.

Both the library staff and the school faculty were greatly grieved to learn of the sudden death on November 1 of Anna M. Neuhauser, class of 1915, librarian of the Department of Internal Affairs, Bureau of Municipalities, Harrisburg, Pa., who was for a few months a member of the cataloguing department here. Miss Neuhauser organized the library of the Hotchkiss school, Lakeville, Conn., and was its librarian for a year. She was made librarian of the Bureau of Municipalities in January 1917, and while there she was appointed assistant at Camp Hancock, being the first woman appointed in a camp library, and she served with distinction there thruout the war.

Dr Frank P. Hill of the Brooklyn public library, gave the first lecture of the season on November 9.

The school has been inspected by Dr C. C. Williamson who is undertaking a survey of library schools in behalf of the Carnegie institution.

On October 26 the school had a visit from Zana K. Miller of the Library Bureau of Chicago.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
Vice-Director.

St. Louis

During the session of the state convention of the Missouri library association, held in St. Louis, Oct. 27-29, the students had the opportunity of hearing the following subjects discussed:

"The librarian's opportunity today," by Miss Bogle; "Possibilities of library extension work in Europe," by Mr Severance; "What county libraries would mean for Missouri," by Mr Bundy, and "Recent worth while books," by Miss Doud. Miss Bogle also addressed the school on "The relation of library and school."

During Children's book week, Nov. 15-20, the students visited the exhibits and special sales of children's books at the Grand Leader book shop and the Arcade book store and also had access, for purposes of study and comparison, to the sample collections sent by these and other stores for exhibition in the main delivery hall of the Central library building.

Simmons college

The chief excitement of November has been the bazaar held at the college on November 5-6 for the benefit of the Simmons College endowment fund.

The alumnae were primarily responsible for the affair, tho every undergraduate lent her aid, and the instructional side was presented by the faculty thru exhibits and demonstrations.

The exhibits of the schools were of uncommon interest, especially those of the schools of social service and of public health nursing.

In the library school room one of the features which attracted most attention was the A. L. A. book binding exhibit, prepared by the St. Louis public library, and lent for the occasion.

The library work room was turned into a children's room, with the aid of Miss Jordan, where graduates of the school told stories in the afternoon and evening.

The seniors and CII's gave an "occasional" library play, staged in the library itself, each afternoon and evening.

The book caravan of the Bookshop for boys and girls camped in front of the college to sell books for our benefit, and was visited by many of the bazaar patrons.

The school was much indebted to prominent publishers, including Houghton Mifflin; The Atlantic Monthly Company; Little, Brown; Small, Maynard; Harper's; Century; Doran; Boni & Liveright, and Hunting. They permitted us to display and sell a collection of about one hundred titles, selected from their publications, to illustrate that part of the Book selection course which deals with the study of publishers.

One shelf of particular interest held autographed books.

The Dennison Manufacturing Company, Gaylord, and the Democrat Printing Company also let us sell certain of their library supplies that would appeal to private individuals.

The pamphlet "Books and a vocation," which was distributed, carried to many bazaar visitors an idea of librarianship as a career.

Mary Raymond, M. A., Acadia college, and B. S. Simmons, 1916, has been sent abroad for a year by Mr Archer Huntington to study manuscripts in the British Museum, with possible excursions to Paris and Madrid. Miss Raymond is a member of the staff of the Hispanic society of America library, and some exceptionally good work there won her this opportunity.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,
Director.

Syracuse university

Miss Sabra W. Vought, inspector of school libraries for the New York state department of education, spoke to the library school November 3 on school library conditions in New York state. Miss Vought and Miss Mary C. Richardson, librarian at the Geneseo state normal school, were guests of the library school faculty at lunch on the same day.

Story-telling practice work by the senior class in the various city centers will begin on December 1.

In connection with Children's Book week an exhibit of finely illustrated editions of children's books was arranged by the senior class of the school under the direction of Miss Doane.

The library is inaugurating a series of teas to be given on the first Thursday afternoon of each month from four until six o'clock. These are to include the faculty and both classes of the library school, the university library staff, students registered in the library school but still pursuing studies in the Liberal Arts college, and former students and graduates of the library school residing in Syracuse.

Elizabeth Gast French, '15, has been called from the librarianship of the North branch of the Syracuse public library, to be acting head of the young

people's room of the Syracuse public library.

Fanny Celestia Howe, '16, has accepted a position as cataloger at Adelbert college at Western Reserve university.

Katherine Miller Mulford, '15, recently acting librarian at Wells college, Aurora, N. Y., has joined the staff of the Tacoma, Wash., public library.

Margaret Sentell, '19, has joined the staff of the Los Angeles, Calif., public library.

The marriage of Martha Trescott Snyder, '19, to Osgood C. Dodson, has been announced.

Carolyn E. Cady, '12, recently in the order department of the State library, Albany, has become assistant in the library of the New York state department of public health.

The engagement of Dorothy A. Gray, '19, assistant at the library of Wells college, Aurora, N. Y., has been announced.

ELIZABETH E. THORNE, Vice Director.

University of Washington

Two new students have entered the library school, making a class of fourteen, of whom six are graduate students.

Alumni notes

Verna Barstad Grimm, '15, is in the Spokane public library.

Stella Bateman, '18, is in the Yesler branch library, Seattle.

Ruth Davis, '16, is in the Reference department of the Tacoma public library.

Florence Gandolfo Davis, '15, is a student and an assistant in the New York public library.

Jessie Eastman, '16, is in the Circulation department, Seattle.

Dorothy Hayes, '18, is teaching in Seattle.

Helen Pinkerton, '13, is with the Sunrise Turn Book Shop, New York City.

Agnes Nelson, '19, is with the J. K. Gill Book Store, Portland, Oregon.

John Richards, '16, is librarian of the Idaho Technical institute, Pocatello, Idaho.

Helen Stone, '18, is librarian of the Columbiac branch, Seattle.

Frances Woodworth, '17, is superintendent of the reading room, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B. C.

Miriam Moody, '16, is director of playgrounds at the Endowed school for native girls, Honolulu.

Laurentine Meissner is librarian of the high school, Medford, Oregon.

W. E. HENRY,
Director.

Western Reserve university

The students are scheduled each week for a lecture course on "The Appreciation of Art" by Henry Turner Bailey at the Cleveland Museum of art. The course in Loan Systems is being given by Bertha R. Barden, of the Cleveland public library. During October Arne Kildal, librarian of the Public library, Bergen, Norway, lectured at the School on Library Work in Norway. Zana K. Miller of the Library Bureau, spoke informally on some of her experiences as librarian of a small public library, and Walter Solomon, head of the Settlement of the Jewish Educational Alliance, discussed settlement work.

The class of 1921 has organized and the honor system of preceding years was adopted. The following officers were elected: President, Edna Giesler; vice-president, Violet M. Baker; secretary-treasurer, Alice E. Horsfall. Gail Stahl was appointed to represent the School on the Student Council of the University.

Children's book week was observed by two lectures by Mrs Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen on "Poetry for Children" and "Fairy tales, old and new," the latter being given to a large public audience at the Museum of Art. Mrs Thomsen also gave individual instruction on "The art of story telling" to the students in the course in Library Work with Children.

During book week the students had the opportunity of hearing Edgar Lee Masters and Lucy Fitch Perkins speak at the Book Fair of Halle Bros.

Alumni Positions

Blanche A. Swope, '16, first assistant Hazelwood branch, Carnegie library, Pittsburgh.

Marriages

Jessie Helene Starr, '09, married to Mr John Apter, Cleveland.

Hortense W. Stetler, '16, married to Mr John Fraser Mitchell, Salt Lake City.

ALICE S. TYLER,
Director.

University of Wisconsin

The fifteenth year of the school opened September 20 with an enrollment of 28 students, the average size of the classes in the history of the school. Eighteen have had some college training, from one with graduate work and six with bachelor's degrees, to 11 with one to three years of undergraduate study; six have had short courses in library training; 15 have had library experience varying in amount from one to five years; seven, teaching experience, four business experience; three have traveled in Europe, and one extensively in this country. The registration represents 11 from Wisconsin, four from Illinois, three each from Indiana and Minnesota, and one each from Iowa, Kansas, New York, North Dakota, and Norway.

Mr Lester has succeeded Mr Dudgeon as director of the school and Miss Hazeltine after a year's leave of absence, has resumed her duties as preceptor. Miss Merrill is giving the course in lending, and Mrs Davis has succeeded Mr Lester as instructor in reference, also is temporarily conducting the course in book selection.

The trip taken last year to study the Book Fair at Marshall Field's was repeated this fall. The class accompanied by Miss Hazeltine spent two days at the Fair which is a liberal course in publishing houses, publicity and exhibitions, to say nothing of the books themselves. Before making the trip introductory lectures were given on the Making of books and the History of publishing in America. After the Fair a round table was devoted to a discussion of facts, impressions, the printed matter collected and other features. The students made a brief inspection of the Chicago public library and attended a presentation of Drinkwater's play, Abraham Lincoln.

As in other years the school correlates with various departments in the university, and already its courses, especially that of book selection, have been enriched with lectures by Professor Bleyer, director of the school of journalism; Pro-

fessors Paxson, Fish and Chase of the history department, and Dr Schafer of the historical library. Professor MacGregor of the department of political science is giving the lessons in parliamentary procedure.

Recent Changes of Graduates

Norton, Edith, '07, has a position with the Federal Reserve Bank, Cleveland, Ohio.

Budlong, Mrs M. C., '10, is librarian of the East avenue branch, Public library, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Dunton, Florence E., '11, became librarian of the Belfast (Maine) public library in September.

Balch, Ruth, '12, is in charge of the files in the office of the Oil Insurance Association, Chicago.

Heins, Dorothea C., '12, is doing filing for the Sheridan Motor Co., Muncie, Ind.

Aiken, Gertrude E., '13, was appointed librarian of the Waukesha (Wis.) public library in September.

Luther, Mrs Jessie L., '13, is reference librarian Kansas State Normal school, Emporia.

Andrews, Sirie, '16, has accepted a position in the children's department of the Brooklyn public library.

Day, Florence C., '16, was elected librarian of the Appleton (Wis.) public library, October 1.

Foley, Mae E., '17, was appointed librarian of the Normal college, San Marcos, Texas, in September.

Root, Harriet T., '17, has accepted the position of assistant organizer on the staff of the Indiana public library commission.

Wennerblad, Sonja, '17, went to Christiania, Norway, in the fall to take a position in the public library.

Nolte, Claire, '18, was appointed children's librarian of the Virginia (Minn.) public library, Sept. 1.

Marshall, Jane R., '19, resigned from the staff of the Indiana library commission to accept the librarianship of the Oak Park (Ill.) high school library at the opening of the school year.

Sexton, Jean, '19, was appointed chief, traveling library department, Indiana public library commission, October 1.

Hinners, Virginia, '20, has accepted permanent appointment as assistant in the library of the First Wisconsin National Bank, Milwaukee.

Nyhuus, Mona, '20, has been appointed assistant in the library of the League of Nations at Geneva, Switzerland.

M. E. HAZELTINE.

Interesting things in print

The annual Selection of technical books, 1919, made by Mr Donald Hendry for the Pratt Institute free library has been issued in a 28 page pamphlet. An index of headings in the list adds to its value, as does also an author and title index.

The Indianapolis public library has issued a suggestive reading list for prospective librarians.

The list includes books on history, current events, the drama, poetry, essays and standard novels.

The general literature is divided by countries and includes discussions of essays and noted writers. Under each division, a list of standard and modern novels is also given.

The things included in Library work seem a little heavy for the neophyte, tho one would be at a loss to know just what to suggest in place of those things that are given.

The list was compiled by Amy Winslow of the library.

The *News Notes on Government Publications* of the Boston public library is devoted to an index and guides to periodicals and newspapers in the English language in the Boston public library. This covers some 53 publications.

The list is accompanied by a classified index. The notes on publications call special attention to the Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior and Department of Labor. The Department of Agriculture offers information in regard to the forest, etc. The notes on the Department of the Interior refer to the publications of the U. S. geological survey; special reference is made to the complete index called a "finding list of states, areas and subjects." In the Department of Labor section, attention is called to the Proceedings of the first Industrial Conference. The document referring to collective bargaining is useful material.

The report of the United States Housing Commission gives important information about small, inexpensive houses.

Book notes

Every librarian interested in what children read,—and there are none who should be uninterested,—will welcome Annie Carroll Moore's *Roads to Childhood* (Doran). Even those who have read the various chapters as they appeared in the *Bookman* will find them worth rereading. Those to whom the book is new will find it most interesting in its discussion of varied types of books for children.

The *Guide to business literature* which was issued in 1916 and revised in 1917, has been re-issued. It lists 2400 business books and guides to business libraries. A number of new features have been added, which with analytics and new subjects make all together about 700 additional entries. The volume contains 456 pages, is bound substantially in cloth and is issued by H. W. Wilson co.

Volume 6, of the *Journal of the National Institute of Social Science* has been issued by F. W. Faxon Co., Boston, Mass. This contains the addresses of the annual meeting of the institute for 1920.

The main topic is Leadership in a democracy, treated by James M. Beck. Other topics discussed are Representatives versus delegated democracy, Alleyne Ireland; Some problems of democracy, Harry Pratt Judson; Leadership and liberty, Frederick A. Cleveland; Necessity of leadership in a democracy, Emory R. Johnson; Two important national problems, Van H. Manning.

The proceedings of the conference, lists, etc., make up a volume of 187 pages.

The address by Mr Beck is worthy of special mention, as indeed are all the addresses, but in Mr Beck's address, he calls attention to the loss of idealism and a strain of selfishness which has entered into the choice of leaders in every line of endeavor. The book is one for thoughtful citizens who are truly interested in democracy, and a wide dissemination of it among thoughtful readers is an object worthy of the best efforts in library service.

Department of School Libraries

A Meeting of Kansas School Librarians

There was a meeting of school librarians on Friday, October 29, at Hutchinson, Kansas. It was the occasion of the meeting of the Kansas state teachers' association and W. H. Kerr, librarian of the State normal school, issued a call for a meeting of school librarians to be held at the same time and place.

All the high school librarians of Kansas, known to be full time librarians, were present except those from Chapman, Independence, Manhattan and Parsons.

There were in addition two representatives from the Kellogg library, Emporia, and one former librarian.

Discussion of the high school library and the study hall, led by Miss Wanda Dobson of Augusta, showed that the ideal of a library-in-use, with the active educational atmosphere of a library-worth-using, is being rapidly realized in Kansas. The new library-study halls, at Neodesha and Pratt, where the rooms are equipped with tables and chairs and books around the room in library fashion, are being accepted and used as libraries; the "required" study and irksome "nothing-to-do" ideas of the old-time study-hall gradually being forgotten in the zest of using books and magazines and illustrative material for practical class work. The study-hall-libraries, with libraries partitioned off at one end of the desk-seated study halls, are having less and less trouble with discipline and are more and more used as libraries. Instructors in general are cooperating nicely in this developing ideal. Very encouraging progress toward the library ideal has been made since our first meeting, held at Wichita last spring. Apparently, it is a matter of sufficient equipment, of some student help, of working with instructors, and of making good with library service.

From the discussion of teaching the use of the library, conducted by Mrs. Jessie Luther, reference librarian of Kellogg library, Emporia normal school, it

is evident that Kansas high school librarians already have the coöperation of teachers in teaching how to use books and there is being gradually introduced into library work the simple instruction needed in how to use books organized into a library. There is also being established the necessary and valuable personal contacts with students in their work with books. A selected list of books on teaching the use of libraries, prepared by Mrs. Luther and giving some of the practical points of her discussion was distributed.

Simplified classification for high school libraries was a highly sensible and usable presentation of a technical subject, by Miss Hazel Howes, of Wichita. Keeping the *use* in mind was primarily urged. Further, the utilization of all the Dewey three figure divisions, rather than the general figure-0 classes, with sparing use of decimals, and with some notable eliminations and combinations of classes according-to-use was urged. Miss Howes suggested combining 353, 342 and 320, all in the latter class; costumes, 391, with 646 or preferably with the theatre and drama, 812 or 822; commercial geography with commerce, 380; all the grammars from the 400's with their respective literatures in the 800 classes; travel stories with histories of the respective countries; all general history with 940.

Miss Ethel Giles, of Abilene, read a suggestive paper on Coöperation of teachers and the high school librarian, testifying to happy and useful relations and describing several methods of coöperation.

Standardizing high school libraries, presented by W. H. Kerr, called attention to the available standards of measurement in the Certain report, which is now available in reprinted and somewhat revised forms from the A. L. A. The definite application of the Certain standards is to be urged upon school administrators and high school inspectors by the distribution of several thousand cop-

ies of the report by the A. L. A. Committee on Education. More definite statement of high school library requirements by certificating and standardizing agencies is needed.

A statistical roll call in connection with this discussion showed libraries ranging from 1000 to 8000 volumes (3 of 2000 to 5000, and 3 of more than 5000 volumes); annual expenditures ranging from \$150 to \$1000 (one library has a special 1/10 mill tax levy for its support); student enrollments from 200 to 1700; library or study-hall seating capacity from 60 to 200; yearly salaries from \$1000 to \$2300 (2 at \$1000, 1 each at \$1200, \$1235, \$1345, \$1400, \$1440, \$1655, \$1665, \$1680, and \$2300); and librarians, six of whom are college or university graduates, four with summer library training, and two with several years experience each as normal school library assistants. A complete questionnaire on the basis of the Certain standards is to be sent out soon, in order that comparative Kansas data may be tabulated and made available.

The question box, led by Miss Mabel Parks, of Hutchinson, covered charging methods, essential reference books, use of student assistants with and without credit, study-hall roll checking, and simple cataloging tools.

It was decided to meet again next October with the State teachers' association, probably at Topeka or in the southeast. It was decided to leave the organization informal, Kellogg library to conduct the arrangements and correspondence.

A revised edition of the Report on standard library organization and equipment for secondary schools by the committee on library organization and equipment of the National Education association and of the North Central association of colleges and secondary schools has been issued by the American Library association. Numerous changes in the bibliography and elsewhere have been made and the report may be considered a guide to the practices current in the best school libraries.

Recruiting Librarians

An experiment is being tried in the Consolidated rural school at Leonardo, N. J. This high school has commercial and agricultural courses. In the district around Leonardo it has been most difficult to secure librarians. The school board and the faculty of the high school became much interested in a library for their high school and in teaching the boys and girls the use of books. The librarian at Navesink, New Jersey, was asked to instruct the classes in the use of books and from this grew a course in technical library work in the senior class of the high school. This course is founded on the apprentice courses of the large libraries and upon the summer school work of various commissions. The pupils are doing practical work both in the high school library and in the Navesink library. The board of education is paying the Navesink librarian to give this course. When the pupils graduate they will be ready to take examinations for the D grade assistants in the large libraries or to go as assistants in the smaller libraries. They are being encouraged to take further training after gaining practical experience. Sixteen have elected the course. These pupils are reading the required books and giving the same number of hours to the study of the work as given by apprentices in libraries.

National Education Association

The annual meeting of the National Education association will be held in Des Moines, Iowa, during the first week of July 1921. This is the first meeting to be held under the revised constitution which provides more direct and, hence, more democratic representation in the executive affairs of the association.

Library Employment Service

The California state library is developing an employment service for librarians. Any librarian desirous of securing library work in California is invited to write to the State library, Sacramento, Cal.

Library Matters in Ontario

The province of Ontario, Canada, has long been noted for its policy in regard to the assistance of the provincial government towards the development of public libraries. But it has far outdone itself this year in the new act which has just passed the legislature. Up to this time, the financial support of public libraries has been provided by a municipal levy of one-fourth to one-half a mill on the assessed valuation of the property, real, and personal, of any municipality. This was found to be not only inadequate but unequal, for the system of assessment differed so widely that some libraries were starved. When, for instance, a municipality had low assessment but high tax rate, there was small chance for the public library. Now, this has been changed by having the support based upon the amount of service necessary. In other words, the public library is supposed to serve people and therefore the fair basis of support is a per capita estimate. For this purpose Mr W. O. Carson, the Government superintendent and inspector of public libraries, has fixed 50 cents as a minimum and a public library board may demand from the municipal council that a rate be levied to produce an amount equal to 50 cents per capita of the population of the municipality, police, village or school section as shown in the latest revised assessment roll. If, however, the people wish to have still further money granted this may be increased to 75 cents by a vote of a majority of the council present and voting thereon.

Again, the new act makes possible the establishment and maintenance of public libraries in rural districts, and subsidizes libraries which show intelligence in operation.

It provides for a Government library school wherein will be trained those who desire to enter library work and gives the minister of education and the superintendent of public libraries wider powers for aiding the work

through grants, organizations, institutions, traveling library, special libraries, library associations, granting of certificates of qualifications, appointment of examining boards, and the encouragement of library publicity and the holding of library conferences.

Altogether it is a wonderful step forward and library work is placed on a position of dignity that already has enabled us to demand—and receive—from the municipalities remuneration for library work which will be more consistent with that dignity.

This legislation was put thru during an exceedingly busy session by a new government—what is known as the Farmer-Labor government—and is an indication of the attitude of these parties towards public education. Hon Mr Grant, the minister of education, who sponsored this bill, is a farmer who believes that an opportunity for self education should be extended to the rural districts and who holds strongly that the establishment of technical schools will by no means suffice.

GEORGE H. LOCKE.

The Development of the Library

Several years ago John Cotton Dana, librarian of the Public library, Newark, N. J., was asked by a firm of architects who had planned a building for a public library, to write texts for five tablets to appear on the front of the building. The space for the tablets was to be of such a size as to make it necessary to restrict the number of letters on each to 110. The architects also wished to have the five tablets tell the story of the development of "the library": that is, of the library in general, not of the particular library on which the tablets were to be placed. In accord with these suggestions, he prepared the five panels which follow, and then learned that the architect had decided to give to another the commission for composing them. The panels printed here state in very brief outline

the story of the development of Speech, of Words, of Writing, of Printing, and of Libraries.

Each man once had of nature's moving picture only the narrow glimpse his own eyes gave: speech came at last and told him what others saw.

With speech came words: The tools of thought, the messengers of knowledge, the crucibles of wisdom, and the bonds of social order.

Writing made words visible, held learning fast, bridged space and time, and through world wide knowledge promised world wide peace.

Printing bade learning and wisdom knock at every door, made truth immortal, and gave each to know himself and his proper task.

The library gathers learning for learning's increase; sets opinion free that truth may prevail; and asks all men to seek for wisdom.

(From *The Printing Art*, April, 1920.)

It is reported from San Diego, California, that the famous old Climax bar in Mexicali, for years a resort for American tourists, was closed as such, July 1, by order of the governor. Plans have been accepted to make changes which will convert the building into the first public library building in Lower California. Among other buildings to be erected is a municipal theatre also.

The Carnegie library of Pittsburgh celebrated the 25th anniversary of the opening of the library on the evening of November 5. Special exhibits and demonstrations of the work of the library attracted a large crowd.

The Canadian Pacific Railway has established a Library reference and file in Chicago, New York and Montreal. The collection relates primarily to natural resources, climate, labor, presentations, and business openings in Canada.

The Free public library of Jersey City has issued two pamphlets: Theodore Roosevelt (8 pages); and The adoption of the constitution of the United States (4 pages). Both include bibliographies. They will be sent to any library on request.

News From the Field

East

Edith I. Wright, Pratt, '14, has accepted a cataloging position in the Yale university library.

Katherine Warren, Simmons, 1914, has joined the staff of the Yale university library, New Haven, Conn.

Caroline H. Royce, of the reference department of the New York public library, has been appointed librarian of the Vermont historical society.

Ethel Green, librarian of the state department of archives and history, Charleston, W. Va., since 1914, resigned September 1, and has been appointed librarian of the Boston Bar Association law library, Federal building, Boston, Mass.

Central Atlantic

Luella O. Beaman, Pratt, '06, formerly at Rye, New York, has joined the staff of the Technology division of the New York public library.

Linn R. Blanchard, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '09, will leave the Newberry library, Chicago, January 1, where he has been head cataloger since April, 1910, to accept a similar position at Princeton university library.

Miss M. E. Crocker, formerly assistant librarian of James V. Brown library of Williamsport, Pa., became librarian of the Annie Halenbake Ross library of Lock Haven, Pa., on September 23.

Bertha Greenebaum, N. Y. P. L., '17-'19, has resigned her position as assistant in the Technology division of the New York public library to become librarian of the American City Bureau, New York.

Miss Irene A. Hackett, Pratt, '97, formerly librarian of the Public library at Englewood, N. J., has been made librarian of the Scudder school in New York.

Mabel Almy Howe, N. Y. P. L., '16-17, formerly with the Greenwich (Conn.) public library, is now half-time assistant at the Orange (N. J.) free library.

Louise M. Peters, N. Y. S., '11-'12, has been appointed cataloger in the Irving National Bank, New York City.

Johnson, Mildred, N. Y. P. L., '18-'19, has returned to New York, after several months service abroad as historian for the Serbian Child Welfare association.

Nathalie A. Maurice, Pratt, '06, who has been index and catalog clerk in the Munitions building, Washington, has been made head cataloger at the Smithsonian institution.

Wharton Miller, N. Y. S., '15-'16, has resigned as assistant librarian of the Syracuse (N. Y.) public library and will begin his service as librarian of Union college, Schenectady, N. Y., January 1.

Alice E. Mills, N. Y. S., '15-'16, resigned as first assistant in the cataloging department of the Rochester (N. Y.) public library to become assistant in the preparation division of the New York public library.

Reid, Jeannie, N. Y. P. L., '17-'18, who has been first assistant in the People's library, Newport, Rhode Island, has been appointed librarian of the West End branch at the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

The report of the New Jersey public library commission for the past year comments on the following:

Increase in the circulation for the commission is more than a million over that of 1917. This increased use has brought to attention the inadequacy of the library appropriations. Much interest and assurance had been given to the library movement by the ex-service men in the American Legion. A group of these has been formed in each town, having a nucleus for library development. The commission has received 5,000 volumes of the books returned from France. Where the American Legion has been helping establish libraries a few hundred books have been turned over to it as the beginning of such a library.

The unusual demand for books last year has continued and increased as the purchasing power of the appropriations

has decreased. The problem has been somewhat heavy. There is a great demand for increased appropriations.

Special attention is called to the rise in price of books. Average cost for 1920 was 91c as against 75c for 1918-19. Prices have advanced in the last year from 50 to 100 per cent on different classes of books. Technical books have more than doubled in price and so have novels. About 4,000 books have been distributed among the institutions of the State. The State Home for Boys and Girls has been supplied by a traveling library from a special selection to supplement their general collection. Discarded books are sent to prisons and road camps.

There were 37,737 volumes sent out in special loans. The traveling libraries are only limited by the number of books available.

Three new buildings are reported for the year. There were 19 new libraries opened during the year. In addition five subscription libraries have been reorganized as free libraries.

The annual report of the Public library of the District of Columbia shows a circulation of 698,513 volumes and 66-849 pictures among 61,627 registered borrowers. It has been found necessary, because of inadequate appropriations, to close the central library every Wednesday at 3 p. m. from October to the remainder of the year.

Some slight salary increases have been made but there were 46 resignations from a total staff of 93, a 49 per cent turnover. This, however, is an improvement on the 90 per cent in 1918 and 98 per cent in 1919.

The main body of the report is in the form of a handbook describing the services and resources of the library. This will also be issued separately for general distribution.

The John Jermain Memorial library of Sag Harbor, N. Y., reports a circulation of 39,486, a per capita average of 11. 1853 victrola records were also circulated during the year.

Central

The Ashley, Neb., public library was destroyed by fire on the morning of November 5.

Arthur R. Blessing, B. L. S., N. Y. S., '17, who has been in the library service of the navy at the U. S. marine barracks, Quantico, Va., has been transferred to the army as corps librarian of the Fifth corps area with headquarters at Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

Ina Rankin, Pratt, '09, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Board of Education library in Detroit.

The Galesburg, Ill., public library is planning the establishment of library stations in the Galesburg and St. Mary's hospitals.

Marguerite Verity Doggett, N. Y. P. L., '17-'19, has been appointed librarian of the High School of Commerce, Columbus, Ohio.

Harriet H. Stanley, N. Y. S. 1895, resigned from the staff of the Utica (N. Y.) public library in September to become librarian of McKendree college, Lebanon, Ill.

Mr and Mrs W. A. Park of Laomi, Ill., have pledged \$5000 to the endowment fund of Lincoln college, Lincoln, Ill. The income is to be used for library purposes as a memorial to their son, Clarence Staley Park, class of 1905.

Constance Winchell, N. Y. P. L., '19-'20, who has been connected with the service for the Merchant Marine under the American Library association, has been appointed reviser in the Catalog department of the University of Michigan library.

The late C. M. Putnam of Nashville, Mich., has bequeathed the village a building to be known as the Putnam library. The sum of \$1,000 for necessary repairs to the building and an endowment fund of \$10,000 for maintenance are included in the bequest. Owing to litigation, the money will not be immediately available

The last report of the Cleveland public library covers 15 months, Jan., 1919-March, 1920) because of a change in the fiscal year.

During the quarter ending March 31, 1919, 1,093,847 volumes were loaned, and in the 12 months following 3,476,716 volumes, the largest circulation in the library's history. The greatest change in reading interest is shown by a percentage increase over 1918 of 36.3% for books on the Useful Arts. Other increases were—Travel 14.1%, Sociology 13.9%, adult fiction 6.5% and books in French 29.6%.

The most notable item of growth has been increased numbers, particularly of adults, doing reference work, the figures being 701,301 visitors for the first three months and 2,608,703 for the 12 month period, an increase of 38.4% over 1918.

The number of inventoried books on hand at the end of the year was 624,941. In addition there were over 40,000 unaccessioned and uninventoried volumes, and 60,978 pamphlets. The library is also custodian of about 50,000 volumes belonging to other institutions and associations.

The number of books for home use increased only 2.5% while the issue of books increased 10.9%. This failure to keep up the book supply in proportion to the book use presents the greatest problem.

Again the most notable gifts have come from the president of the board, John G. White, who had added 3,665 volumes and pamphlets to the remarkable collection he has already given to the library.

The public schools of Cleveland received books to the amount of \$1,925.53.

The Open Shelf is reaching more readers thru over 500 doctors and dentists who are now on the mailing list, and coöperate by keeping the bulletin on their waiting-room table.

The co-operation with the public schools has been close and more cordial than ever before. The Board of Education now shares the salaries of school libraries; a definite program of school

branches in every junior and senior high school has been adopted; the librarian-teachers, as they are designated, meet the same educational requirements as do the teachers, have the same standing and the same minimum salary schedule. The attainment of parallel maximum scales is a goal towards which progress is being made.

Four new school branches were opened, of which one, the Rockwell Branch, Board of Education Headquarters, should eventually offer an opportunity for service to the Cleveland educational system parallel to that rendered to the city through the Municipal Reference branches.

One new building, the Brooklyn Branch, built from the Carnegie Fund, was completed. Additional space was secured for the Main Library.

The report closes with a strong plea for recognition of the needs of the Public Library. These are (1) more books for research; on technical, commercial, industrial and financial subjects and for popular recreational reading. (2) Endowment and book funds. (3) More branches for unserved portions of the city. (4) The erection of its new Main Library building.

- Indianapolis public library

Kate Dinsmoor, N. Y. S. '07, resigned her position as librarian of Junior college, Kansas City, to take charge of the work of the High-School reference department, Indianapolis public library. This work has been constituted an independent department.

Grace Kerr has resigned her position with the National Research Council to become head of the order department. Miss Kerr was formerly general assistant in the order department of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Blanche Garber, Pratt '20, has left the Detroit public library to become senior assistant in the circulation department.

Grace Horne has resigned her position as librarian of Traveling libraries in the Indiana State library commission to become an assistant in the stations department.

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By Annie Haven Thwing.

Illustrated. \$5.00

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By Frederic J. Wood.

Illustrated. \$10.00

THE HISTORIC TREES OF MASSACHUSETTS

By James R. Simmons.

Illustrated. \$4.00

THE LETTERS OF SUSAN HALE

Edited by Caroline P. Atkinson.

Illustrated. \$4.00

THE LIBERAL COLLEGE. In "The

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By Alexander Meiklejohn \$2.50

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By Captain Charlton L. Smith.

Illustrated. \$1.65

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Florence L. Jones, Pratt '20, has returned to her position as chief of the reference department, Indianapolis public library. Amy Winslow, N.Y.S. '16, who served as acting reference librarian during her absence, has been appointed chief of the technical and publication department.

Luella Nelson has resigned from the Indianapolis library to accept a position in the Indiana state library.

Lois Ringo, assistant in the catalog department, has been made librarian of the High-school library, Anderson, Indiana.

Five members of the staff of the Indianapolis public library are attending library school this winter. Gladys Fitch and Mary Venn are at the New York public library, Grace Walker is a special student at the New York state library, and Irene Branham and Bess Garten are taking the children's training course of the Cleveland public library, serving at the same time as members of the staff of the library.

On October 7, the Indianapolis public library observed the third anniversary of its dedication and the seventy-first birthday of James Whitcomb Riley, with its third annual Open House. A musical program, including Riley songs and monologues, combined with charming children's dances, was a suitable commemoration of the birthday of the poet who was first of all a lover of children. As an expression of their appreciation of what the new building means both to them and to the people of Indianapolis the staff made this celebration the occasion of a gift to the library of a five-piece silver tea-service.

The Hutchinson, Kan., public library is to have a working medical section for the benefit of doctors and laymen. Dr H. G. Welsh, a resident physician, has started the movement by adding four hundred valuable medical books and periodicals to the collection contributed by Dr Clary some years ago. Members of the Medical Association are interested in the movement and will supply the library with medical journals. A sum of fifty dollars a year, half to be contributed

by Dr Welsh and half by the association has been pledged for additions to the medical collection.

The Missouri and Kansas library associations were organized within a few days of each other in December, 1900. The two associations, which this year again met almost at the same time, exchanged congratulatory greetings.

South

Lily M. Dodgen, Pratt, 1912, has been appointed reference librarian of the Tampa, Fla., public library.

Benonine Muse, N. Y. S. '20, has been appointed assistant reference librarian at the University of Texas, Austin.

The Enid public library, thru the action of the Garfield county commissions in contracting for country library service has become the first country library in Oklahoma.

The late Mrs Mary Frances Jones who founded the Jones memorial library at Lynchburg, Va. 15 years ago, has left by will her entire estate amounting to about \$540,000 to the library.

Kate Feuille, N. Y. P. L., '18-'19, who has been an assistant in the Extension division of the University of Texas library, has been made librarian of the Medical library connected with the University of Texas.

Fannie Taylor Taber, N. Y. P. L. '13-'14, formerly head of the children's department of the Birmingham (Ala.) public library, has been made librarian at the Girls' Technical school, Montevallo, Alabama.

The Carnegie Library of Atlanta let the contract on November 6th for a branch library for the colored people. The building is to cost \$50,000 complete with all equipment, furniture, etc. Of the building fund, the Carnegie Corporation of New York gave \$25,000. An additional \$25,000 was raised by Atlanta, the city giving \$10,000, Fulton county \$10,000 and the remaining \$5,000 was given by public subscription. The city also purchased the site for the building at a cost of \$8,700.

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Pacific

Marion Gregory, Los Angeles, 1918, has been appointed assistant in the Santa Barbara free public library.

Genevieve Kelly, Los Angeles, 1918, has been appointed librarian of the Northern Arizona Normal school at Flagstaff.

Glyde Maynard, N. Y. S. '19, has joined the staff of the Los Angeles public library as assistant in the school and teachers department.

Elizabeth R. Topping, B. L. S., N. Y. S., class of 1911, who has been cataloging temporarily at the Salem (Ore.) public library has joined the staff of the Monterey county free library, Salinas, Cal.

The circulation of the Alhambra, Cal., public library has increased 36 per cent and the number of new patrons added annually has increased more than 100 per cent in the last two years. A collection of educational stereographs in the children's room has been much used. Art exhibits have been held almost continuously during the winter months.

The California state library is developing an employment service for librarians. Any librarian desirous of securing library work in California is invited to write to the state library.

The Los Angeles public library report notes among the features of the past year the establishment of School and teachers, Foreign extension and Publicity departments. The Circulation, Science and industry and Sociology departments were thoroly reorganized. The library has 386,857 volumes and 130,641 registered borrowers. The total circulation was 2,797,389. Of the \$315,267.32 expenditures, \$180,811.80 was for salaries. Besides the central library there are 35 branches and sub-branches and 187 deposit stations (109 in schools). The total staff is 194.

Philippines

Ellyn C. Broomell, N. Y. S., '13-'14, will go to the Philippine Islands in December as assistant departmental librarian of the army libraries.

Dorothy Gates Rogers, N. Y. P. L. '15-'16, who has been librarian in the Education section of the U. S. War Department at Washington, has gone to Manila as librarian of the Philippine Bureau of Education.

Foreign

The International Labour office at Geneva, whose work was described on page 496 of the November issue, has purchased the library of the former International Labour office of Basle. It includes probably about 14,000 items. It is especially strong in law and parliamentary papers and in report of labor offices and factory inspectors of Europe, America and Australia. Many publications of labor and employers' associations are also included.

Wanted—A trained cataloger who can act as general assistant as well. Minimum salary, \$1800. Address, Chisholm, Minn., Public library.

Wanted.—Trained and experienced woman to act as head librarian in a public library of 14,000 volumes. College town. Population 6,000. Position open Jan. 1, 1921. Salary \$1,500 per year. Address Stewart library, Grinnell, Iowa.

For Sale.—Complete files Chicago Tribune, Chicago Record-Herald and Chicago Daily News, August 1, 1914-August 1, 1919. First class condition. Make offer. Address S. C. Irving, 10 South LaSalle street, Chicago, Illinois.

The St. Joseph, Mo., public library has a large number of duplicate copies of PUBLIC LIBRARIES from volume 8 to 25 inclusive which it will give to any worthy person or library for the expense of posting and shipping. Many of the volumes are complete and a few are bound.

Mrs. W. C. Newell, 57 Bowdoin street, Springfield, Mass., has 73 copies of "Life and how to live it," by Augusta R. Aldrich, a book dealing with health problems, which she will give to the libraries which first apply for it.

